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# Jaaku to Shite Akuratsu Naru Chika Teikoku Monogatari - WN Chapter 00-14

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### **Chapter 0**

TN: Happy Halloween

I've had this sitting in my drive since February but didn't release since someone else was doing it and... kinda promptly forgot all about it. I figured I might as well release it now...

Five years since the Magic Empire fell to ruin.

Led by the Holy Kingdom, the Alliance of Nations that was the main player in the Empire's fall was maintaining a temporary peace while keeping each other in check.

A great many people wished this peace to last forever, indulging in the slaves, loot, and territory plundered from the Empire.

However, in a place nobody knew of, someone moved.

The lead part is a memento from the fallen empire.

The prince and princess of the now-gone Empire, a pair of siblings.

\* \* \*

"We shan't forget a single one of those days! Nii-sama!"

Underneath the glittering stars of the night sky, there was a young boy and a young girl in the middle of a forest a considerable distance from the capital. The girl, playing with her hair that was so long it seemed like it goes down to her feet, smiled.

She was a beautiful girl.

Her long black hair flowed down beautifully, not getting entangled with her long skirt that reaches down to her ankles, her spotless chalk-white skin gives the impression of melting snow upon gentle touch. Her shining gem-like eyes, shining blue like sapphires, emanated a radiance like the light of the stars condensed. However, there was no smile in her eyes. Inside those eyes that would fascinate any race, flames of hatred flickered and burned.

Her name was Halva.

The second in line to the throne of the Magic Empire.

"Yeah."

The short but powerful answer was the boy's.

His appearance was a match for Halva's, a fine figure of a man.

He was a boy with a womanlike beautiful face, a tall stature, golden hair that shines even in the darkness, and a pair of deep blue pupils. His appearance was vaguely similar to Halva's.

However, his expression was austere, his tone of voice brusque, giving him a rough impression; rather than a gentleman, were it be more apt to call him a military man. His muscles were also that of a well trained man's, his well built body can well be seen from even under his clothes.

His name was Alarc.

The first in line for the throne of the Magic Empire.

They were the prince and princess of the former Empire.

For never inheriting the throne, their titles stayed as they were.

"Father and Mother's laments, resentment, their screams mixed with fear, do not allow them to be forgotten, even if you wanted to forget."

"Yes, the cries of the retainers, full of regret and suffering, they will not leave my ears..."

Halva, full of dark wrath, muttered a short phrase.

"—Teleport, Jewel of the Underground Labyrinth."

The moment she said the words, white and black intermingled and a fist-sized jewel appeared.

What she recited was the spell called [Item Teleport]. A low rank magic to call upon items bearing the mark.

"Come, Nii-sama! Let us begin our revenge."
"All right."

Halva invited her brother with a gentle, wicked smile.

Alarc nodded gravely, answering his sister's words.

It's been a short while since the fall of the Empire, though it seemed like a long time to the siblings.

When the Imperial Capital came under siege, the two were let to escape.

As they watched the castle they were so familiar with burn down and the beautiful capital trampled over, protected by magic cast upon them by their father and mother, they were led away by the Empire's best magic user, who later became their magic teacher.

The two who lost everything was left with only one thing.

Revenge.

Revenge against all the countries that caused the fall of the Empire.

They absolutely will not forgive.

The two vowed.

They will not fuss over the means. Whatever it takes, they will give them what they deserve.

They devoted the five years for the sake of revenge.

In order to fulfill that goal ordinary magic will not be enough. Therefore, they laid their hands on things that were called forbidden and heretical. They learnt many forbidden magics, granting them great power at a great price until they were able to remember them.

Perhaps because of that, their souls became impure, their spirits were affected in no trifle quantities.

Were someone who knew them as children to see them now, they would shed tears, seeing how they became so different people.

Halva's hair that was golden like her brother's was dyed jet black, not a shred of her timid character was left.

Alarc's gentle smile was no more and his skin ice-cold, like a corpse.

She grabbed the summoned jewel in her hand. He covered the top of the jewel not held by his sister.

With a sizzling sound, the overflowing mana from the jewel burned the two, but neither of them let out a voice of pain.

Halva happily widened her smile and looked at her brother.

Alarc looked at his sister with emotionless eyes.

Then, they gave each other a slight nod, and spun the words of magic.

""In order to grant us... our revenge.""

Their voices resounded in the night.

""— Create, the Wickedly Vicious Underground Empire.""

\* \* \*

There was a country called the Magic Empire.

Its actual name was the Altimur Empire.

True to its name, the Empire was reigned by people who could wield magic, as nobles. It ruled over huge tracts of land.

The reason why the Empire possessed such territory was twofold.

The first was magic.

A power that twists and bends the law of the world, yielding the results to the wishes of the wielder.

It was not omnipotent, but still useful nonetheless.

From simple destruction magic to magic that manipulates people's hearts to ones that change their appearance, magic that give swords a cutting edge several times sharper, and magic to keep produce from being attacked by insects, the magic was separated into several different kinds, and all of them was studied with great zeal by the Empire. In its heyday, the Empire could come up with thousands of different magics.

Led by the royalty and the nobility, the magicians worked and the Magic Empire was always in abundance.

The other reason was that they warmly welcomed races other than humans.

In this world there lives a great number of non-human races.

To call upon an example there were the Elves and the Dwarves, though they were few they had Elven and Dwarven countries. They were treated like humans in most countries, but Goblins, Orcs, Ogres, Minotaurs, Centaurs, Fairies, Beasts, and humans from savage lands that do not know language were treated as barbarians, like wild creatures. Every village that was discovered was set aflame, the residents captured and enslaved or killed, the treasures they owned taken away as pillage.

However, the Empire treated them just like they treated humans.

The Empire traded with the tribes within on equal terms. Of course there was retaliation if they attacked, but generally, they were on friendly terms.

Then, because they were treated equally, the surrounding countries starting with the Holy Kingdom saw them as a threat.

The Empire that possessed much land did unfortunately not have the military power to defend it all.

The surrounding countries, led by the Holy Kingdom, put military and economic pressure on the Empire, infiltrating with their troops time and time again.

Then, when the Holy Kingdom troops attacked a small Empire village, the Empire gathered soldiers and fought them back. The Kingdom took this as a pretense to attack and sent their troops to launch a preemptive strike, as if in agreement, the surrounding countries pressed their attacks from all sides.

The Empire was by no means weak, but with their territory so large their soldiers were spread too thin and they were all crushed. Even with their magic, they couldn't win against an attack by the thousands and tens of thousands, the savage tribes under the Empire's protection also joined the war, but they were lacking in equipment and training, so the Empire slowly lost its military.

The Empire sent out peace emissaries, but the Holy Kingdom ignored them.

The emissaries were killed, and their heads were sent back.

The final blow was the nobles betraying the Empire after seeing it at a disadvantage.

Among those who capitulated and bowed their heads to the Kingdom, there were those who eagerly gave away intelligence about the Empire, those who simply wanted to protect their territory, and there were also those who were dissatisfied with the Imperial policy of treating the so-called savages equally.

Finally, the Imperial Capital was trampled down by the Allied Forces and thoroughly pillaged.

The Emperor was beheaded in the imperial castle by the Holy Kingdom Knights and died. The Imperial Capital Knights who resisted were all executed. Not only the imperial castle, each and every house was plundered, then burned down. A third of the capital's inhabitants were killed, the rest was taken to the Holy Kingdom and the countries of the Alliance as slaves.

Alarc and Halva were driven out of their hometown, and for 5 years since the Empire fell, they dedicated themselves for revenge.

Not to rebuild it, but to dispel the grief of those who perished.

Learning the heretical and the forbidden arts, the siblings continued preparing their revenge.

Then, just now, the preparations were all complete.

They offered their own souls, and chanted one of the forbidden magics, the Labyrinth.

Nobody yet knew that the fires of revenge that will burn the continent down to nothing had been lit.

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### **Chapter 1**

There were 20 Goblins pushing through the forest that night.

They were the remnants of a tribe of over 300.

They were running for their lives.

The Goblin chief Prukk cursed over and over again while running.

"Dammit! How did this..."

It was one of the human raids, under the name of a barbarian hunt or monster hunt.

The hunt didn't come for a while so they were caught unprepared.

They don't even have time to regret.

"At least get more of the females away! Even if just one!"

There were only five of them who could fight, including himself.

He didn't know how far the pursuers had come, but he felt very uneasy.

But it was absolutely necessary for him to do everything to make sure the females survive.

They were a small people with ugly faces, they had low intelligence, their males and females are similarly green-skinned, and they carry out their primitive living in somewhat large groups in forests or mountains or likewise remote areas. They had a cowardly and servile character, but they can be high-handed against weak foes

If one were to speak of their most distinguishing feature, it has to be their high reproductive rate. The Goblins' reproductive rate stand out from every other creature in this world. So long as they had a male and a female, they could recover their numbers in just half a year. Goblins possess not only the skill [Overwhelming Fertility], but also [Precocity] and [Quick Birth], and because of those they could quickly increase their numbers. In exchange, their lifespan is only several years, many of them having disadvantageous skills starting with [Short-Lived], then [Inferiority], [Scanty], and [Trifling]. Then again, few Goblins reach the end of their lifespans. Most of them die off in barbarian hunts and monster hunts spearheaded by the Holy Kingdom.

One could not call the Goblins possessing the skill [Scanty] strong even as a

compliment.

Under normal circumstances, they compensated for their lack of strength by requesting the protection of stronger races like Ogres in exchange for an offering of sacrifices.

Of course, there were Ogres in Prukk's village, too.

The sight of 10 Ogres lined up was quite a spectacle, if one Ogre possesses the power to take down 5 or 6 human soldiers, then they must have had quiet enough fighting power.

In truth, they successfully repelled several hunts before.

However, this time was different.

Scores of human adventurers suddenly came and made short work of the Ogres, and Knights and Mages precisely took down the fighting Goblins. Then, armored soldiers pierced through and landed the killing blow on the escaping goblins.

The humans called *adventurers* come in all kinds, but the bastards that came to attack them this time must be the stronger ones. They could almost do nothing but run away.

"Prukk! Flames! The enemy's coming!!"

Hearing one of his goblins, Prukk came to his senses.

They were certainly coming in on them.

(Can we hold them off here?)

The number of flames weren't many.

However, it was still more than their own numbers.

If it came to a fight, then they will undoubtedly die.

Shouldn't they be running away then?

However, the females don't have physical strength. Then there were the children, albeit few. If they held the pursuers back here the females and children might live, but once their defenders perish the pursuers would catch up to them and kill them in the end.

"That said, I got no better ideas other than stall for time."

He looked at his weapons.

His familiar scimitar was smeared with blood from the fight when they made their escape. His armor had become tattered, only now did he realized that the flank had come off. He looked at the other goblins, but they too were in similar situations.

"Hold them ba..."

Just as he was about to give the order to his underlings, a bat flew into Prukk's face.

"W, what!?"

"Prukk, the flock of bats are..."

Possibly taking off from their roosting hole, a flock of bats numbering in the hundreds flew out of a cave.

"A cave? If all goes well we could hide there and let them past us!"

They know of no caves around these parts, but looking at the number of bats it shouldn't be a small one. Even if they fled the forest as they are now the pursuers will catch up with them. Therefore, they had to consider the option of taking refuge in the cave, dangerous as it may be.

Prukk immediately signalled his goblins to hide in the cave and hurried there himself.

"Th, this is..."

They expected a small crevasse as the entrance.

What they found, however, was anything but small.

The gigantic entrance gave off the impression of a castle gate of old, decorated with ornaments, ominous but with a mysterious air to it. It might have been the grave of some hero, or an ancient ruin. In any case, it was wide enough for the 20 goblins to walk through lined up side by side. What's more, there were stairs leading down, though they were old.

"What the hell is..., no! You lot hurry up inside!"

As he was thinking that they ought to have known if there were something like this nearby, he remembered that they had pursuers after them and gave orders to his goblins. He couldn't go back after having gone as far as here.

Anyhow, they need to hurry!

They descended the stairs in one go.

They thought the place would be dark, but it was lit with fires and didn't feel

dark at all.

They realised as they descended, it was a spiral staircase.

It was considerably long, taking them over 10 minutes to run down.

"huff huff, oi! Is everybody here!?"

Out of breath, he called out to his companions.

They answered immediately.

"We're here. All of us, we're alright!"

"That's good..., anyhow, looks like this place is more roomy than I thought."

"Yeah, we won't be short on hiding places here."

Being grateful for the unexpected stroke of luck, Prukk spontaneously broke into a smile.

It was because there's such a splendid hiding place nearby. With this place as their base they could suitably deal with layered attacks like this time. The throbbing of his heart didn't stop, but the next instant, they froze in fear.

"Welcome to our underground labyrinth. It is nice to meet you, right, Niisama?"

".....Yeah."

"]]"

Not only Prukk, all the goblins' sense of relief up to now instantly went away. A boy and a girl appeared from the darkness.

The boy was wearing a robe like one a magician would wear, it was white in color and embroidered with gold here and there.

The girl was wearing a black dress. Her dress was embroidered in silver, both of them seemed to be clothes made by a first-class tailor.

They were human, both of them.

Or at least they looked human.

However the goblins instinctively knew. These two *weren't* human. They were [something else] in the shape of humans, or so Prukk's [Strength Perception] warns him.

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"W, we are..."
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Prukk was about to say something, but he was unable to speak a word due to the two's intimidating air. The boy was looking at Prukk as if evaluating him, and the girl was smiling as she started to talk.

"I wonder what's wrong? Your tongue isn't moving Goblin-san." "Chased, we ran..."

He tried to explain their situation, but the words don't come out well. Looking at them like that, the boy opened his mouth.

"I know."

He spoke in a brusque manner.

It didn't feel like he was angry or irritated, but he wasn't friendly either. Humans and Goblins are enemies. In the time of the Empire they were able to maintain cordial relations but at least within Prukk's lifetime they've been at each other's throats.

"H, help us."

He begged for his life with a quivering voice.

He wanted that at least one male and one female be spared.

That way, their tribe may yet be restored.

"Please..."

Prukk kneeled and bowed his head like he was praying.

Prukk's underlings and the females and also the children did the same, prostrating themselves seeking help.

However, the girl spoke to their words as if ridiculing them.

giggle "Do you Goblins really think that there's any use for us to be helping you out?"

"T, that's..."

Honestly, there isn't.

All they had right now were crude weapons and a little food.

Of course, there's no use in killing them, either, but since these ruins were their territory there's no reason not to to kill them as intruders.

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"Halva."

"What is it, Niisama?"

"Stop it."
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With short, heavy words he told the girl called Halva.

The boy's facial expression didn't change. Only a sliver of what could have been pity was lodged in his deep blue eyes.

Hearing that, Halva tilted her head in a lovely manner, but she gave a first-class smile and elegantly bowed her head.

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"All right, Alarc-oniisama."

"Goblins..., that's how it is. Speak your name."

"A, aye, I'm called Prukk."

"I want the details. What help?"

"Eh?"

"Hm?"

"Oh?"
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Unintentionally, Prukk raised his head and looked up at them.

There the boy with a mysterious expression, Alarc, and the girl looking at Alarc with a surprised face, Halva.

The conversation didn't match.

In order to get the conversation straight Halva asked her older brother.

"Niisama, didn't we come to kill the goblins trespassing on our underground labyrinth?"

"No, that was not my plan."

"Oh? Is that so?"

"Yeah, we finally get visitors to our underground labyrinth. I thought we should show our faces."

"I see." "Right, it doesn't look like we're on the same page right now."

"So it seems."

Listening to the conversation between the pair, Prukk breathed a silent sigh of relief.

There were a few things worrying him but it seems he doesn't need to worry about suddenly getting killed.

"Yeah, my apologies. We didn't intend to harm you."

"Well, if you get carried away and wreck the labyrinth I'll kill you even if Niisama tries to stop me."

Alarc spoke gently and with dignity, Halva spoke lightly out of her own pleasure.

"Well then, let's return to the conversation, Prukk."

"A, aye!"

"So long as you don't harm this underground labyrinth you won't be in danger. I wanted you to get out of here as you can, though?"

"A, anything but that!"

"Hm..., it seems you have your circumstances."

"Yes, actually..."

Prukk told them of today's happenings.

About the sudden attack and their village's destruction, about their and their friends' frantic escape, and how while trying to escape, they stumbled upon the underground labyrinth.

To gain the two's sympathy, he dramatized the small details, but Alarc looked at them with expressionless, cold eyes. Halva was smiling an evil smile.

After the story is told, Alarc asked.

"I understand your situation. What do you want to do then?"

"W, we want to get away somewhere else safely..."

"Is that what you really want?"

"Halva, don't tease them too much."

"But Niisama, it's their chance to ask help from us is it not? Now that they finally get the chance it's too pitiful to cast it away~"

Even as she said pitiful, Halva talked like she was a cat playing with a mouse.

"Hey hey, Prukk? Tell us what you really wish."

"That's as I said just now..."

"Really? Really? You lost everything so suddenly and ran away in sorrow, is that what you really want? Do the others think so too?"

Her smile turned even deeper.

She had somehow come closer, looking down at Prukk while playing with her long black hair that goes down to her ankles. Looking at them with eyes blue as the ocean's depths.

"... Tell us, what your true wish is."

In response to Halva's question, Prukk let out the words he's been keeping inside his heart.

"Unforgivable, I won't forgive any of them!"

"We want to take back the land we lost!"

"We want to grieve for the friends who died!"

"We want revenge!"

"Revenge!"

The other goblins besides Prukk also realized and shouted.

They don't want to be crushed like insects.

They don't want the village destroyed.

They want the power to start over!

Halva nodded to their enthusiastic shouting, satisfied.

Then, she put on a bright smile and bowed to her brother in petition.

"Oniisama, I shall ask this of you, as well."

"Right..."

After considering it for a short while, Alarc turned to Prukk and the goblins.

"I'll take you in as our retainers. You will do as we command, you will work for our sake, you will fight for our sake..., in return, we promise you and your tribe protection. We will also lend you a hand in your revenge against those who burned down your village."

"Come, if you accept Niisama's compassion then take his hand."

Alarc held out his hand and Halva told Prukk.

Then, without a moment's hesitation, the goblin Chief took that hand.

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### **Chapter 2**

The ones who attacked the goblin village numbered 500 people.

The adventurers assaulted first, acting as scouts while the soldiers gathered at the entrance, besieging and massacring them. Because the goblin village was in the middle of a forest, the soldiers consist not of cavalry or heavy infantry or spearmen, but a force with sword and shield wielding light infantry at its core and volunteers conscripted from the surrounding farm villages.

Then as for the adventurers, they were 10 teams dispatched by the Adventurers' Guild.

They were parties who went through carnage, having defeated goblins and orcs as a matter of course, but also threw down ogres that were stronger than themselves.

Commander Jarre, who was entrusted with the goblin subjugation, put on a deep smile hearing the victory report from his subordinate. He was 40 years old this year, the knight commander from the nearest town of Bendall. As a clean-cut light-brown-haired man wearing a set of armor that barely maintained his dignity, he didn't look like a man who was capable of leading 500 soldiers.

Truthfully, while it's actually a battle where they could gain complete victory with very few victims, he made mistakes in the timing and some of his men lost their lives in vain.

Of course, he had thought of lots of excuses to put in his report to the feudal lord.

"The damage on the soldiers are: 51 dead and 140 wounded, 60 of them serious. That is all."

He probably ignored his adjutant's damage report.

Looking uninterested, Commander Jarre nodded several times and asked about their goal in attacking the village.

"Right right, rather than that, how's the loot?"

"Sir, we managed to seize food in livestock and grains. Combined with the coins and gems, I think they are valued at 27 000 in common gold."

"Excellent."

Commander Jarre rubbed his beard and nodded in satisfaction.

With 10 000 common gold coins, 100 peasants could survive through winter without having to starve.

Of course, Commander Jarre never intended to hand the gold over to peasants. He just discussed his share of it with the adjutant.

"Will it be alright if we report 17 000 to the lord?"

"That much is a bit..., If we give priority to handing over the money and gems, 22 000, I think?"

"Hm, all right."

It's common sense in this world to surrender all the loot gained in battle to the lord. Then, the lord would divide the spoils among the subordinates. Loot can be various things, from simple money and gems, or otherwise food, livestock, weapons, antiques, or slaves.

They were all calculated in units called common gold, the amount of money they all get sold for.

This time, because of mobilizing the soldiers and employing the adventurers, they spent 2000 gold in expenses.

In other words, with the costs deducted, they gained 25000 gold in this battle's victory.

Of course, when looking at the long term there are lots of parts that can't easily be said like damages and loss of manpower due to casualties.

However, Commander Jarre paid no mind to such things.

For now he'd divide the loot he gained between himself and his subordinates, only filling his head with thoughts on how much he could swindle. With his skill [Cunning], he considered his crafty deeds a bit of a dishonest bonus.

"Anyhow, those goblins sure saved up a lot, huh."

"Yeah, they've sure gotten fat."

"Wahahaha", Commander Jarre laughed in a loud voice.

Then, while his adjutant put on a servile smile, he added to his report.

"I ordered the adventurer groups to chase after the fleeing goblins."
"Right, that was a good decision."

Commander Jarre swindled the loot, and his subordinates also cheated by

cramming more of the loot inside their own pockets. Then, the ones who swindled the most off the loot were the ones called adventurers, so Commander Jarre, with his [Cunning] ability, knows.

Drunk with victory, the soldiers laid waste to the goblins' shabby houses, and pilfered money and goods off of their dead bodies, putting all they stole into large baskets and jute bags.

What the goblins saved up, they stole.

Commander Jarre prayed for the safety of the goblins chased by the adventurers. That way, they could come and pillage them like this some more.

\* \* \*

The adventurers couldn't possibly know what Commander Jarre was thinking, but one of them cursed.

"Dammit, we got the short straw having to chase the runaway goblins!"

"There there, Tieres. Complaining won't get you anything."

"But the soldiers are probably rifling through the loot at the village by now"?

Even though we're the ones who killed the ogres and made sure it's safe!"

"That's true..., but we're employed adventurers. If the client says go, we go, so we do nothing but chase them out like hounds."

"I know that but still~"

The one who had been complaining, the one called Tieres, was a man in his mid-twenties, his whole body was wrapped in full plate mail and armed with a sword and shield, his eyes looking through a gap in the helmet that covered his whole face looked at his surroundings with waning motivation.

They were the warriors who slew many ogres and goblins.

Incidentally, the one who was calming him down was a man in priestly garb. With the holy emblem hanging from his neck, he was armed with a metal breastplate and a metal mace. He was a short young man with light brown hair. The name of the priest of the holy god was Delitte.

Furthermore, Tieres' grumbling was interrupted by a female voice.

"Shut up! I found the goblins!"
"tch"

Tieres smacked his lips and looked at the woman.

She was a tall and slender girl with a black ponytail and cold eyes, wearing leather armor and a composite bow slung on her back, two daggers shimmered, hanging from her waist.

The girl was called Lorna, a ranger who excelled in tracking and bowmanship. She tracked the goblins' footprints using her [Humanoid Tracking] skill.

"There are 20 of them by the footprints, they're a bit far but we can catch up with them."

"Thanks for your efforts, you can all go home now! Let us handle the rest."

Agreeing with Tieres, another man likewise clad in metal armor yelled "That's right, that's right". Delitte looked troubled his inner thoughts can't be read, but he showed no signs of helping out Lorna.

Lorna was about to say something, but before that another woman flared up.

"Tieres! Leaving the annoying parts to us and keeping the good bits to yourself, you're just the same as those soldiers!"

The woman had red hair and light armor, the term 'tomboy girl' seem to perfectly suit her.

Her name is Yslaine.

She was the leader of the all-female adventurer party [Iron Warmaidens] Lorna belonged to, a female warrior with quite a capable sword hand. Her longsword was sheathed at her waist but Tieres knows that it was imbued with magic.

The 4 others besides Lorna were all girls, as previously mentioned.

There are a mage with short build, a priestess with her face covered in thin cloth, a muscular female warrior wearing something resembling underwear, and a female knight with her whole body covered in armor.

On the opposite side was Tieres' adventurer party who called themselves the [Swords of Faith].

They numbered 13 members.

This side consisted of entirely males.

There were 7 people with full armor like Tieres, 3 priests like Delitte, and 2 mages. They actually had 2 thieves like Lorna but they were unluckily killed by goblins when they attacked their village.

"You shut up! You cheeky lot becoming adventurers even though you're girls! Get lost before you hold us back!" "Holding you back? Are you fucking kidding me!? Without Lorna here you'd have lost sight of the goblins!"

"I said you talk too much! You female warriors didn't even kill an ogre and you still say something cocky like that!"

"Huuh!? Didn't we help you out when the goblins took you by surprise!"

The two glared at each other and began quarreling.

Even simply chasing and killing goblins would earn them quite some cash.

They could exchange the finger they brought back as proof after killing goblins for money, and they could earn a bit off of the weapons and armor they stripped off them. Still, it doesn't earn them much but it was better than nothing. Income is irregular for adventurers, so when they're on the job they won't leave

However, even if they were to pursue the fleeing goblins, Yslaine's [Iron Warmaidens] were uneasy to attack with their numbers and Tieres' [Swords of Faith] did not have the personnel that could track them down.

That was why the two formed a temporary alliance.

"We're gonna lose them while you fight."

"Tieres, while you're having pointless quarrels the prey is going to escape."

Lorna gave an icy cutting remark.

without earning some.

Delitte gently pacified his leader as well.

"Dammit, catching them will be first time first serve!"

Tieres gave an angry roar, but Yslaine laughed back saying, "I meant to do that from the start."

For those girls, something like this was not unusual.

As an all-female adventurer group they were often looked down upon, when they first started they couldn't get significant jobs and were made to put up with leftovers. However, they pushed through all the hardship and showed their true strength.

They exterminated goblins and thieves, menaces on the highways, they explored underground labyrinths where monsters made their nest and gained treasure.

They experienced close encounters with death but they climbed over it and gained themselves fame.

But at the same time, clashes like earlier often happened to them.

It was envy.

Adventurers were mostly men, they wouldn't accept that there were female adventurers in the same business that were more capable than themselves. Furthermore, it was not rare that when they showed the same degree of skill that they had feelings of envy and hatred turned on them.

Nevertheless, it was few but they do get goodwill from parties with higher skills than themselves.

(I feel sorry for men with small caliber)

Yslaine muttered that in her heart.

Her party members shared much of the sentiment.

They walked, all the while receiving chilly glares from the [Swords of Faith]. Only one of them, Delitte, sent them a worried look, but only Lorna noticed that.

Before long, the two adventurer parties found the entrance to the underground labyrinth.

"They went in here."

"Oi oi, did this place exist before?"

".... nope, we don't know about it either."

Before attacking the goblin village, they collected intelligence about the surrounding land.

They gathered information that there were several small hills and marshes besides forests, but they heard nothing about a place like this.

Probably the tomb of some great man or some ancient ruin.

The entrance to something underground, that looks difficult to make with current technology.

It was wide enough for ten of them to walk through side by side. It was probably wider than the central gate at the capital that the soldiers would line up and march under. Because it spiralled, they couldn't tell what it was like inside. However since there were candlestands along the walls and instead of candles, magic lights attached to them, it was surely brighter than outside.

"This, could be by some chance...., might hold amazing treasure inside!" "Yeah....."

Yslaine agreed with what Tieres said.

There are times when underground labyrinths often hold unbelievable treasure. Yslaine's magically-imbued longsword was one found in an underground labyrinth. Other than that, there were things like ancient coins and gems and works of art that would worth a fortune when sold. For that reason they were almost entirely used up, but if they found one more, no, half of one, they could quit the dangerous job of being an adventurer.

In most countries, people who find ancient treasure can keep it for themselves. The exception is when it's part of a ruin exploration request, a portion of the findings are paid as fees, but since this is a goblin extermination, that exception does not apply.

"Let's go you bastards!"

Tieres loudly commanded his companions.

Making a clanging sound, all the members of the [Swords of Faith] went down to the underground labyrinth.

"Yslaine, we should go too."

One of the party members, the female knight, urged her leader.

"Of course", the reply came immediately, but Yslaine was thinking.

With an underground labyrinth entrance this big in this kind of place, somebody's bound to notice. At least the information dealer who was employed to collect information about the terrain around here should have noticed.

Considering their safety, they should withdraw.

However, she looked at her companions and thought.

Despite having been attacking a goblin village, none of them were injured. They are also almost not exhausted at all. If she lost her nerve here and heard afterwards that Tieres' group got hold of lots of treasure, regretting would be too late.

"Everyone, alright?"

Finally she made sure everyone was okay with it.

Most of the time she would make the decision on her own as the leader, but she was getting a bad feeling from the underground labyrinth this time.

Sensing their leader's unspoken uneasiness, everyone stated their thoughts.

"I don't mind."

"I, I'm all right. I almost didn't use any magic, after all!"

Lorna, the short mage, the priest whose face was covered with thin cloth, the underwear-wearing muscular warrior, and the female knight covered entirely in armor each responded in turn.

Hearing everyone's opinions, Yslaine made her determination.

"All right, then we should go, too!"

Thus, the [Iron Warmaidens] all went down to the underground labyrinth.

TOC |

<sup>&</sup>quot;I have enough power left to use the divine miracles."

<sup>&</sup>quot;While killing the goblins, why not take the chance to get treasure."

<sup>&</sup>quot;There's no problem on my part, we'll regret it if we step aside here, no?"

# **Chapter 3**

Some time after the goblin group led by Prukk arrived, the [Swords of Faith] led by Tieres went in the labyrinth. Then a short while afterwards, the [Iron Warmaidens] with Yslaine as the leader also went down to the labyrinth. Alarc and Halva were at the deepest part of the underground labyrinth, the "King's Chamber", talking about what they should do.

Yes, the place they were at is a place fit for a king to reside in.

The place could accommodate hundreds of people with room to spare. The pillars supporting the ceiling was adorned with gold and silver, a red carpet was spread from the doorway to the throne, and the parts of the floor that wasn't covered with carpet was tiled with beautiful crystal-like transparent tiles.

It was also bright, so bright that one would forget that they were underground. Looking at the ceiling, countless gems were fixed to chandeliers hanging down, each radiating their own brilliance.

The lord of this place, Alarc, was sitting on a chalk-white throne.

The throne looked hard to make, even by dwarven artisanship. It was engraved with an image of a majestic angel being eaten by a snake, it had a presence that makes one hear the angel's cries of grief.

As a pair with her brother the other lord of the dungeon, his sister Halva, was sitting on an obsidian black throne. This one was engraved with an image of the struggling dead being trampled under the foot of a smiling woman. Incidentally, the smiling woman looked just like Halva.

Between the two thrones, there was a round desk, colored as if black and white was swirling together. Countless crystal balls floated above the desk, one of them was showing the intruders' current situation.

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"What will you do, Nii-sama?"
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He answered his sister's question bluntly.

"Understood", Halva assented and put on a wicked smile.

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"I can kill the rest, right?"
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<sup>&</sup>quot;I want some of them captured alive."

<sup>&</sup>quot;That's right..."

Alarc answered.

The underground labyrinth they build was still under construction.

That's right, the [Wickedly Vicious Underground Labyrinth] they built with magic was a growing labyrinth.

The price was the builders' souls.

At the moment of construction the builders become one with the labyrinth and became the labyrinth itself.

It was one of the spells brought forth by magicians who seek immortality, the labyrinth would grow by eating intruders that went inside it.

But why, then, were they able to still maintain their human forms?

The answer was because the two each paid half of their existences.

Performing a large scale magic that was meant to be performed alone using two people, they each offered half the required soul for compensation. Because of that, the two was able to maintain their human forms.

Of course, this was impossible for the average mage.

It was five years' worth of hard work and the talent of royalty who administer the work of magic, but above all, the tenacity that comes with revenge that can be said to be the reasons how they could wield such large-scale magic.

The deepest area where the two lived, the "King's Chamber", was for the most part, complete.

But as has been said before, the labyrinth was still under construction.

Because not a single monster had been put in place, the siblings had to go out by themselves.

"Ufufu, let's hurry up and go, Nii-sama!"

If they themselves moved out, they could easily put this number of intruders to rout.

That was what Alarc thought.

It's not hubris, but simple fact.

However, to Halva who invited him to go, Alarc only shook her head.

"No, we're finally getting intruders. Halva, let's call up a monster."

"Oh? We're not going to see them directly?"

"Yeah, we promised to take care of the goblins. While we go out and fight the goblins' living area will be undefended from intruders."

"If it's us we can kill them all and not leave a single one!"

Halva, who thought her own abilities was doubted, puffed her cheeks, but Alarc replied with a cold voice.

"That may be so, but we're getting intruders at long last."
"Yes."

"I want to see the strength of the monsters we can summon. We know it but we won't understand until we see it used in action."

"We~II, since Nii-sama says so."

Seeing the still seemingly dissatisfied Halva with dispassionate eyes, Alarc put on a small smile and said.

"Don't be so sullen, I'll let you choose what we summon."

"Really!?"

"Yeah."

Being told that, Halva chanted a short [Item Teleport] spell, calling out a bulky volume.

The book had an ominous binding, it radiated a faint green glow. The banned book, called the [Scriptures of Ruin], contained various knowledge regarding the end of the world.

It is said to corrupt the hearts of those who read it, but Halva paid it no mind and turned the pages and smiled once she found the place she was looking for.

"I want this!"

"..... Looks alright."

"Ufufu, well then, Nii-sama..."

Asked by his sister, he slowly chanted the words of summoning.

There are a few ways to call a monster to the labyrinth, but the fastest way is to "summon" them.

"Summoning" is a magic to call forth a being from a different world. The magic creates a "gate" and controls the being that went through that "gate".

There is a possibility that everything ends without getting anything through the gate and just wasting a large amount mana for no use. Or possibly being able to summon something but not being able to control it and get killed.

It was a dangerous magic with a high level of difficulty.

However, there was no tension nor fear in Alarc's face.

He who had mastered summoning magic possesses the skill "Demon Call" that can call forth any monster of his liking once a day with certainty.

"——Summon, Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity." <<TN: 堕落せし猟犬を従える審判の騎士>>

Bringing the summoning to a finish, he put the "Demon Call" into motion.

A small distance from where the pair was sitting, a brilliantly shining magic square appeared.

It called forth a being not of this world and built its form.

Grey clouds gathered and transformed into a human shape. The being that took shape groaned in a low voice, perhaps in joy, or maybe anger, at being summoned.

Knight of Judgement Commanding the Depraved Hounds.

A monster of which is written in the "Scriptures of Ruin", he was one of the knights appearing at the end of the world.

At first sight, he appeared like a knight.

He was clad in dark-blue armor and helmet and wearing a light green cape. The pommel of the longsword hanging from his waist was ornamented with the figure of a man in a collar suffering in anguish, and there were ominous looking words written on the scabbard.

But the most curious of all is the rattling sound of chains he makes everytime he moves.

The knight has countless chains hanging on his waist.

On the ends of the chains were collars.

"You did well to come."

Alarc called out to the knight.

His voice was as if he was greeting a friend who came to his mansion, it was strangely relaxed for him.

Groaning, the knight looked at Alarc.

Then as he held down his groaning he dropped to his knee and bowed.

The chains with collars made a rattling sound, there were ten of them out in the open, but there were likely to be more hidden beneath his cape.

Taking on the posture of a retainer, the knight answered in a coarse, low voice.

[I have come, milord.]

"Be at ease. We have still not made the master-servant pact."

[Yes.]

Still kneeling, the knight slowly raised his face.

As he saw the knight, Alarc continued talking.

"There are intruders in our labyrinth. Here they are."

He lightly touched one of the crystals floating above the desk and slowly turned it towards the knight. The images of people reflected on the crystal was transferred into it every ten seconds and projected. What was shown was the members of the [Swords of Faith] and [Iron Warmaidens].

"I want you to capture some of them alive."

[.....]

"The others can be killed....., no let some of them live and send them to the surface. Do what you like with the rest."

[Capture them alive?]

"Also, go see the goblins. I want them to get to work."

[By your will.]

"That's all for your orders, what do you want in compensation?"

[You are strong, I would like to be serving under you.]

"I'll consider it depending on today's result."

[You have my gratitude]

"Now go."

Receiving the order, the knight nodded lightly and stood up to leave the "King's Chamber".

"He's more obedient than I thought, Nii-sama!" "Right."

The Underground Labyrinth's ruler, Alarc, possesses the skills [Evil Charisma], [Dark Noble], and [Wicked Soul] that gives him substantial bonuses during negotiations with monsters, especially those considered as evil. In return, he has the penalties of [Instinctual Fear : Human], [Threat to All That Is Holy], and [Abhorred by All That Is Just] when dealing with normally upright and good characters, humans in particular.

Incidentally, unlike her brother, Halva does not have the ability to call out monsters, nor any skills that gives bonuses in negotiations with them.

"If he resisted, I was thinking about maybe showing him your power."
"Yes! Nii-sama's enemy is also my enemy!"

Alarc looked at his sister, who was smiling as she said that, with dispassionate eyes.

Seeing her brother, Halva was immediately reminded of something.

"By the way, why did you want to send some back alive? It's better to have even one more sacrifice to enlarge the labyrinth, isn't it?"

"Yes, that's exactly why I'm sending them back alive."

As he said that, he showed his sister one of the crystal balls.

What she saw there were adventurer men having fun as they took out gems from an old-looking casket. Some of them were rubbing his cheek at a sack full of money and kissing a metal goddess statue.

"I want them to taste what this labyrinth has to offer and go back to town to spread the news."

"Hm—m, but Nii-sama!"
"?"

"If you want to spread rumors, then couldn't you hire proper agents rather than these guys?"

Hearing that, Alarc looked away from Halva.

".... Well, that's one idea. If we failed to spread the rumors we'll do that then." "Yes! Nii-sama!"

As he looked at the innocently smiling Halva, Alarc thought.

He is willing to make all the sacrifices necessary in order to carry out his revenge. Currently, he's given up most of his body and soul to arrange a base needed for his revenge. After this he should enlarge his forces and territory. He isn't going to balk at making sacrifices along the way.

However, he thought he shouldn't make unnecessary sacrifices.

But how about his sister?

He understood a little of what she was feeling from how she integrated herself with the labyrinth.

However, he could not read what was inside her heart.

Just like she had no way of knowing what he was thinking, he didn't know what she was thinking.

What was Halva thinking?

Then he mockingly laughed at himself.

For he will probably forgive her no matter what she was thinking.

Because of his hypocrisy, he unintentionally said out loud.

"What a terrible man."

"Hm? Nii-sama? What's wrong?"

"No, it was nothing. Rather than that, how is the knight doing?"

As he said that, he peered into the crystal.

In a few moments, the Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity will make contact with the members of the [Swords of Faith].

I TOC

# **Chapter 4**

Tieres was pleased with his luck.

He had searched for places called underground labyrinths many times, but they all had nearly been explored to depletion and hold nothing that could be called treasure.

However, this underground labyrinth was different.

Since a while ago treasures appeared one after the other.

There were gold coins inside vases and caskets to start, there were colorful gemstones like diamonds, rubies, and sapphires, and the nooks in the pillars were decorated with metal idols that looked like works of art.

He couldn't imagine what kind of treasures await him beyond here.

"Well well, this is not the time to be chasing after goblins, right."

"Right, but Tieres, don't let your guard down. We haven't seen or fought a monster ever since we came down to this labyrinth."

"I know I know, but for treasure a little danger can't be helped."

Replying with some strong words to Delitte, Tieres looked at his companions. The 13 members of the "Swords of Faith", including him, was packing the labyrinth's treasure to backpacks and jute bags.

"Besides, if we slack off those bitches might get their hands on the treasure."

Some time had passed since they went down the stairs to the labyrinth and started treasure-hunting in earnest.

This labyrinth likely has a size appropriate to its titanic entry gate, making them feel as if they were lost inside a large city.

Because they were a large group, they had been avoiding narrow passages.

Then since they had no thieves, they avoided rooms with doors as much as possible and looked through big and small rooms along the way. There were lots of rooms with nothing in them but there were also unusually well-decorated rooms, and by examining vases, caskets, and decorations inside *those* rooms they usually found some kind of treasure.

There still were lots of rooms they hadn't explored, and their only rivals were the [Iron Warmaidens] they came to the entry gate with.

"If we see them again... we'll kill them, I guess."

Hearing what Tieres said, Delitte made a frown.

The only thing on Delitte's mind is to once more ask for their cooperation. They had no thieves, so their treasure gathering had become inefficient as a result.

"There's no need for useless fights, is there? In fact, how about we worked together again and split the treasure equally? There's so much treasure here. We won't lose much even if we added six people."

"What"?"

The priest Delitte can't see his face because of the helmet, but because of the anger in his voice, he could easily imagine his leader's face turning red with fury. The slender Delitte looked down so as to avoid receiving his wrath. He narrowed his eyes, brown like his hair, and ignored his leader's grumbling.

"Don't screw with me!! Even after only working with them a little while I know I can't possibly be working with bitches like those!! I won't forgive them for treating men like scum!!"

Afterwards, Tieres hurled insults towards the [Iron Warmaidens]. Delitte wanted to ignore him but because of the overly trivial things he was complaining about he can't help but sigh inside.

(\*sigh\*, it could be dangerous to stay with an intolerant guy like him any longer. I probably should leave and find another party once we're done with this exploration.)

Not knowing what was going on in the priest's heart, Tieres who recovered his mood started walking happily.

Then, they heard the rattling sound of chains from beyond the passage.

"Oi!"

Tieres raised one hand to warn his men who were in the room behind him.

Starting with Delitte, the other companions took up battle stances.

"Who goes there!? The [Iron Warmaidens]!?"

It was possibly because they didn't encounter a monster even once until this point.

Tieres shouted, thinking it was probably the [Iron Warmaidens] he was talking about just now.

"Answer me, or we'll treat you as enemy!"

Then as if in answer to him, a knight making a rattling sound with his chains appeared from the passage.

He was clad in deep blue armor and helmet and wearing a light green cape. Unlike the armor Tieres and his men were wearing, his didn't look worn out. Even the longsword hanging from his waist was well decorated no matter what one's opinion about the taste.

"A knight? No, there can't be a knight down here!"

After he said that, he recalled that there was a female knight with the "Iron Warmaidens", but the armor she was wearing was rather shabby compared to the one worn by the thing before him.

Tieres' skill [Valor] gives him a fearless fighting strength, but fear budded inside his heart.

To dispel the fear he loudly shouted.

"Stop, or we'll treat you as enemy!!"

He identified the opponent leisurely walking towards him as a strong warrior by his [Strong Enemy Verification] skill, but as adventurers who'd been in scenes of carnage time and time again they elected to fight. They were reluctant to part with treasure, and if they could slay the enemy in front of their eyes they could get their hands on some good armor and a sword.

Using [Battlefield Command] he gave his companions the order to attack all at once but before he could give the order, the knight slid towards them at high speed as if reading his moves.

"S, stop!!"

They prepared their weapon and got ready to fight back.

Four of the [Swords of Faith] stood by Tieres in a line.

By lining up they could use the cooperative skill [Interception Lineup] that raised overall defense.

Behind them, three warriors prepared their weapons to protect the rear guard: the mages and the priests.

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"——Attack, Small Lightning"
"——Attack, Acid Spear"
```

Two mages fired off attack magic from behind.

However, the deep blue knight didn't show any signs of damage even after receiving the lightning attack and the acid spear.

```
"——Defense, Protective Shield"

"——Defense, Holy Protection"
```

"——Support, Body Strengthening"

Three priests including Delitte strengthened the five knights guarding the front.

Together with their own defense, they became strong enough to withstand an ogre attack unperturbed.

Then, the knight swung his sword at the warriors. The vanguard warriors put up their shields, hardening their defense to take the blow and settle the matter with a counterattack.

Then, the two warriors on the right hand side taking the blow were mowed down and died instantly.

Tieres, who was right in the middle, escaped certain death but his armor and shield was broken and he groaned, covered in blood.

Disregarding the vanguard who was looking around not understanding what happened, the knight split one of the middle guard warriors in half. Seeing him easily cut the full body armor like butter, they all lost their fighting spirits.

```
"W, waaaaaah!!"
"Monster!"
"Run! Run awaaay!!"
```

They let out screams and darted towards the entrance.

The deep blue knight became a gale and cut down the two middle guard warriors.

The ones remaining were the vanguards Tieres and the two warriors who were late to run, the priests, including Delitte, who were frantically trying to get away, and the two mages.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Run away! Run if you don't want to die!!"

Delitte raised his voice.

The next instant, the head of the priest who ran ahead was blown away with a splat.

The knight was suddenly running beside them.

His chains made a rattling sound, Delitte screamed and fell down from fear.

Incidentally, there were a few strange points.

The chains freely made rattling sounds, but he can say he couldn't hear the clanging sound of the armor at all.

He didn't know what the knight look like behind the blue helmet.

No, he didn't need to know.

The knight's real face was surely that of a disgusting monster even if he saw it.

"Uooooh!"

"AAaah!"

What stopped Delitte's thoughts were the roars of the two warriors who were late to run.

Perhaps out of desperation, they raised their voices and attacked.

Then, they were cut down with a single stroke of the sword.

"A, aah..."

One of the priests and the two mages probably got away.

The only ones left were Tieres who was writhing in agony and Delitte who was still dumbfounded.

Delitte resolved himself to die and closed his eyes.

However, death did not come even as he waited.

Instead, he heard a low, coarse voice.

"..... stand."

He timidly opened his eyes and saw the monster in the shape of a knight.

It was unfortunately not a nightmare.

However, he saw a ray of hope. By having called out to him it would mean the knight didn't intend to kill him immediately.

Slowly as to not provoke the enemy, he did as he was told and stood up. *gulp*, he gulped.

The knight was taller than Delitte, he looked down on him and told him.

"Some goblins will be here. You will do as they command, and should you harm the goblins or try to run away, a fate worse than death shall await you." "I, I understand. I wont disobey, so spare my life..."

The knight didn't reply to him and looked towards the passage. Immediately, he saw goblins carrying weapons and a stretcher coming close. The goblins skillfully put the writhing Tieres on the worn out stretcher, and tied up Delitte so he couldn't resist.

They also took the priest's magic holy seal, taking away all his means of opposition.

"Hurry up and walk!"

The goblins jeered and kicked Delitte from behind. They took Delitte as prisoner into the depths of the labyrinth.

TOC |

## **Chapter 5**

In contrast to the "Swords of Faith" who avoided narrow passages, the "Iron Warmaidens" proactively sought to move in the small streets. Then, like the "Swords of Faith", they found treasure in several of the rooms.

Diamond-encrusted metal mirrors, fist-sized emeralds, puppy statues made of obsidian and so on, all of them were expensive items so of course everyone's faces broke into smiles.

"Just how much treasure is there!"

Yslaine yelled out with a happy voice, everyone else nodded in agreement. While thanking the powers that be for their good luck on finding a heretofore unexplored place with such wealth and becoming the first explorers, the "Iron Warmaidens" resumed their exploration.

The place they were in now was a straight path with four small rooms on the right and five on the left.

The passage can fit three people side by side, but it's a small one for this labyrinth. Regarding the small rooms, each and every one of them were about the size of a room in the cheap inn the girls usually use.

The small rooms were probably used as storage rooms, they already searched three and found shovels and brooms, wooden chairs, wooden tables, vases, dressers, wooden boxes and so on, but on the rare occasion there are jewel boxes containing beautiful gems. Otherwise, there were things like leather bags containing gold coins, old dolls with gemstones inlaid as eyes, just one of the rooms contained a fortune.

"But I wonder who could've made these ruins~"

The slightly dull voice belonged to the short magician Eto.

Eto, who had the skill "Science: Archaeology" still couldn't figure out what these ruins are.

It was vaguely Imperial.

There were places with Altimur Empire decorations, but the interior itself is old. It felt like at least a hundred years had passed.

The one who said that with a smile overflowing with wildness was the muscular female warrior Jen.

Jen was only wearing underwear-like pieces of cloth as if showing off her muscles but the pouches on her waist and the bag on her back was packed full of booty.

"But at least I wanted to know the name."

As if answering Jen, the priestess covering her face with a thin cloth, Vena, uttered.

While searching through the small rooms, she found potions in the rooms. Vena who smiled as she used her skill "Item Identification" discovered that they were the equivalents of "Medium Restoration Potions".

"It has this much treasure, so it must belong to some great person."

While making clanging sounds with her armor, the female knight Corias gazed at the ceiling.

Over the passages and small rooms there was a sky-high ceiling that gave no feeling of crampedness despite being underground, when she looked up she saw beautiful patterns painted on it. From the viewpoint of Corias who had no knowledge about fine arts, they were simply beautiful pictures.

"Everyone, let's stop the chatter there. Keep your guard up and let's get out of here!"

Yslaine clapped her hands and got the team who had become a little slack to pull themselves together.

Until they came here they hadn't met a single monster, but the goblins definitely came here, it is perfectly conceivable they might be hiding behind pillars, corners, or in small rooms with doors shut closed.

"Lorna, how's the surroundings?"
"I sense nothing."

Lorna who had been on guard since earlier replied to the warrior leader curtly. Yslaine who trusted her said simply, "stay on your guard," and went to give instructions to the members who were doing the exploration.

"Everyone, we've made sure there were no enemies in the room, but we don't know where enemies might come from. Continue your search while keeping

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guard!"
"R, roger!"
"Leave it to me."
"Of course."
"Understood."
```

They each answered in their style and continued the search.

As Yslaine watched over them, she picked out something in the yet-unexplored room. She found an old wooden box and as she examined it, there was a metal ring inside. There were some words carved onto the box.

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"F-o-r-b-i-g-b-r-o-t-h-e-r..., this is a child's writing?"
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Yslaine was at a loss for a while but thought that a ring is sellable and tucked it in her coat pocket.

She shut the wooden box and went back.

```
"Big brother, huh..."
```

Yslaine had lots of brothers.

Five older brothers, and two younger. That may seem a bit much but it wasn't strange for a farming family in this world. When Yslaine was 10, three of her older brothers and both her younger ones died. They died in epidemics, famines, and goblin and bandit attacks.

The remaining two brothers were picked out for war and died.

Losing all working hands, her parents also died to sickness and she, with the sword one of her older brothers held at to his last moment, became an adventurer. Because the only other alternatives were either to become a prostitute or a bandit, she believed this was the right choice.

Luckily, because she possessed the skill "Weapon Mastery" forged by her work in the farm, she was able to become something of a warrior. Her first party consists only of men, she immediately became disgusted and left. The next one was a mixed male-female party but due to love troubles the party disbanded. Then, she decided to make her current female party the "Iron Warmaidens."

Having one of the members of her previous party Lorna as the first, her companions unexpectedly increased to include Eto, Vena, Jen, and Corias.

Three years had already passed since then.

There were trivial fights but they held strong feelings of companionship due to

entrusting their lives to each other.

She thought that at the very least, it was beyond compare to the "Swords of Faith" they came to the underground labyrinth together with.

"Not good..., this isn't the time to be thinking of the past."

She might have unwittingly relaxed herself because she had come across a huge amount of treasure.

For a leader to become like this after warning everyone, it's inexcusable.

"Yosh, once again..."

"Everyone, enem.....!! AAaaaaAAAaaaah!!"

Interrupting Yslaine's who was about to say 'let's continue searching', Lorna's scream was heard coming in as a warning.

"All, to me!!"

The leader Yslaine went out of the room and called everyone to her.

The warrior Jen and knight Corias came out of the room with their weapons in hand, and the mage Eto and priestess Vena prepared to fire off magic at any moment.

Then, Lorna was...

"Lorna!!"

The hunter Lorna was bleeding from her shoulders, and collapsed.

Beside her, there was a knight wielding a longsword.

He was clad in deep blue armor and his face was hidden behind a helmet so his expression cannot be read.

The knight turned towards Yslaine, and at the same time the chains hanging from his belt made a rattling sound.

"Jen, Corias, pin him down!"

At the leader's instructions, the warrior and the knight jumped at the knight from the right and left.

Jen used the skill [Frenzy] and Corias used [Fierce Attack] and pulled the knight away from Lorna. Using that gap Yslaine came over to Lorna and poured liquid from a small bottle she took out from a pouch over her open wound.

It was "Medium Restore Potion", normal wounds would heal immediately.

However, the wound didn't close.

No, it seems like the bleeding subsided a little.

"—Strengthen, Attacking Sword"

"-Defend, Protecting Shield"

Eto and Vena's support magic was cast on the warriors.

"Vena, take care of Lorna."

"The potion!?"

"Didn't work well! Anyway...."

She was about to say, "take care of her," but her voice was drowned by the screams of her companions.

"Waaaaaah!!"

"Corias!! Goddamit!!!!"

The knight easily pierced Corias' full body armor, gouging her flank, and Jen rained down attacks on him as she yelled angry roars. Still using her "Frenzy" that dulls pain and increases her strength to the limit, she used the "Fierce Attack" Corias was using earlier to increase her attack speed.

It was the violent attack of the warrior who boasted herself the party's firepower.

However, the knight calmly received the attacks.

"Uoooooooh!!"

"Jen! Calm down!!"

She made a large swing, as if she wanted to finish the fight in one go.

The knight shifted his body and easily evaded.

... or so it seems.

"Gotcha!!"

The large swing was a feint.

The real thing comes with the next attack.

The "Frenzy" skill has the beneficial effect of raising one's strength to its limits, but on the other hand it has the downside of dulling one's clear judgement. However, Jen came from from a tribe composed entirely of women who call themselves the Amazons, the Amazons possessed the skill known as "Frenzy

Penalty Annulment".

In other words, even as she wielded superhuman strength, she was still able to calmly attack.

"Dieeeeeee!!"

A sharp metallic sound was heard.

However, it was not the sound of the knight's blue armor breaking, but the sound of the destruction of Jen's sword.

Then, an attack came swinging.

As she hemorrhaged and fell down, Jen muttered a "dammit" as she collapsed.

"Eto! Vena! Run away, I'll buy some time!"

Instead of apologizing to the two for not being able to come in and help, Yslaine did her duty as the leader and took out her magic longsword.

"—Strengthen, Speed Increase"

"—Protection, Angelic Halo"

"]]"

A white light wrapped Yslaine, giving power to her body.

"That's no good". I don't think I can run away."

"There's no other way to stay alive than to have you win."

"..... fools!"

Without taking her eyes off of the knight, Yslaine shed tears.

They were tears of fear of the death coming her way, tears of regret for having come to this place, and tears of gratitude to her companions for encouraging her even in this situation.

chirrr, There was the sound of chains.

As if taking that as a signal, the knight closed in at a tremendous speed.

He was stopped at the first step.

His blow was heavy.

"-Strengthen, Strength Increase"

"—Protection, Divine Orb"

Taking the knight's blow, Yslaine, wrapped in Vena's magic, the priest's miraculous ball of light, broke the knight's posture for an instant.

"Nowwwwwww!"

She used all her muscles and launched an attack at the knight.

She aimed at the gap between his armor and his helmet.

It was an attack Yslaine made with all her might, using her skill "Weapon Mastery" making her sword an extension of her body.

The sword splendidly came between the armor and the helmet.

"Eh?"

Though she felt the sword strike, there was no blood, the knight didn't collapse, and carried out an intense counter towards her chest.

oof

She was about to say something but instead, blood came out from her mouth. I don't want to die, she thought as tears flew out of her eyes and her consciousness faded.

The remaining Eto and Vena no longer had the power to resist, but the knight ignored them and picked Yslaine up by her head. Incidentally, the sword that she pierced through him was still there, looking right out of a nightmare.

[Collars]

With a rattling sound, his chains slowly rose up, as if being moved by magic. There were collars attached to the ends of the chains, made out of leather with several sharp things on it.

[You look like you were about to die unless I do this...]

With a sarcastic smile, the knight said this in his low, coarse voice.

The moment the collar locked onto Yslaine, the blood flowing from her chest until just now was healed. It's almost as if a high-ranked healing magic was cast upon her.

[Rejoice. For you will serve me as my hound.]

The knight pulled out another three chains.

With a rattle, the chains with collars attached to them snaked their way towards the collapsed Lorna, Jen, and Corias. Then they latched onto them with a clink.

[Now then, choose. Will you put the collar on yourselves, or shall I force it

upon you. I must tell you though, the choice of death shall not be allowed to you. For my master has permitted me to do with you as I please.]

As he was saying that, the knight looked down on Eto and Vena.

Even though they couldn't see his face, the priestess and the mage knew that his face was trembling with dark desires.

Then, they too understood their fate.

But whether it was out of fear that went past its limits or their obstinacy as adventurers, the two exchanged glances and turned their magic against the knight.

```
"—Strengthen, Fortify Magic."
```

"—Destruction, Explosive Flame!"

With her magic strengthened by Vena's, Eto fired her strongest magic.

A ball of fire assaulted the knight.

The fireball would explode upon impact and burn everything within a large area to ash, and for that reason there was a possibility that Eto and Vena themselves, who were in the immediate vicinity, could get rolled up in it and die.

But even so, they fired the attack, thinking of it as an act of revenge.

```
"—Interference, Extinguish Magic"
```

By the power of the counter magic, the fireball disappeared like a shining ball of trash without exploding.

The one who cast the magic was not the blue armored knight.

It was someone they knew well.

```
"Corias....."
"Why....."
```

The one who cast the counter magic was the "Iron Warmaidens" female knight Corias.

Ignoring the surprised, questioning voices of her companions, Corias crawled like a dog and went towards the blue knight.

No, it was not only Corias.

Yslaine, Jen, and Lorna, too, crawled like dogs and approached the blue knight.

[Bark]

The chains made a rattling sound.

Immediately, they all made barking sounds like loyal dogs being commanded by their owner.

"Woof woof"

"Woof"

"Wo-of"

"Yelp yelp"

The two were shaken by feer at the sight of their companions acting like dogs, deprived of their humanity.

Not the fear of death.

It's the fear from understanding why the blue knight put collars on them, and at the same time breaking their selves, turning them into dogs.

[Ha, hahahaha, ahahahahaha]

At the unbearably funny sight of them following his orders, the blue knight laughed.

Then Eto and Vena stopped up their ears and closed their eyes to run from the reality.

As if ending the two's nightmare, the blue knights took out two collars for them.

\* \* \*

The mopping up of the intruders is over.

The blue knight took his six "hounds" and returned to the place where the ones that were to be his masters were.

TN: Just to make this perfectly clear. I'm just posting these chapters because I happen to have them at hand. I have no plans on TLing any further so don't bug me for updates.

| TOC | Next  $\Rightarrow$ 

## **Chapter 6**

MTLAnon Here I brought to you a new series and soon to be halted or dropped series 'Tales of the Wickedly Vicious Underground Empire'

I already half translate this series for sometime but because this stuff is so hard to translate and if it isn't because of the help of Sensai that help me TLC and Edit it I don't think you guys will see a good quality of this series. since I want to do something special for one month anniversary of the site I just release this one.

Alrac and Halva the siblings watched how the two adventurer party getting crushed, now the problem has been settled, then they turn off the images from the crystal ball.

```
"They weren't a big deal as I thought! Onii-sama"

"You are right"
```

Alrac agree with Halva words.

"Though, this place only have minimum protection. We need to evaluate this place."

```
"Eh?"
```

"Hmm?"

They couldn't engage talking to each other again.

Halva's eyes became watery when she talked to her brother.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Nothing serious...., It was the intruders right?"

```
"Is that really the case?"

"Yeah!"
```

While looking at her younger sister that puffed her cheeks in unimpressive, Alrac fold his hand and thinking 'Hmm'

"As expected for a long named Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity he has various special skills, even though his skills are mostly brutal forces. Speaking of conspicuous special abilities, it would just be using collars to make servants right?"

"Ahem! Well, Onii-sama! We will now proceed on evaluation of the Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity"

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"..... Allright"
```

Hearing Halva talk after purposely clearing her throat, Alrac responded with cold voice.

While they were watching the goblins of the chieftain of Purruku on their small crystal dragging the prisoners of war. Until they arrived they decided to discuss something.

"First, Even though Onii-sama said he use brutal force, he's using a skill in the most case."

```
"Is that so?"
```

"That is right!"

Halva informed him while puffing her moderate chest proudly and vigorously.

From her usual spoiled tone, she changed it with polite expression like she was talking with a student.

"First, when the group used [Interception Lineup] to increase the defense, he immediately used the combined skill [Rank Destruction] and [Iron Cutter] and broke through the enemy line.

"So he wasn't just a power idiot...."

"Yes, To be able to see through the enemy skill, that is evidence that he is used to fights and was able to attack effectively."

[TL: If you people can suggest more cooler name for 『隊列崩し』and 『鉄切り』 please comment below.]

Halva talked to her brother with delight seeking his consent.

Skills, there are race skills which are acquired from the moment when one is born, there are also martial arts skills that are acquired by the handling of weapons, there are also various magic skills where you can learn them by remembering their incantation.

And there are skills that can be used by will and ones that take effect automatically, there are infinite number of skills that exist in this world, the strength of the skill will keep increasing if you keep using it.

Naturally the race skill is an exception from the tedious practice and training, hence why people usually have several skills. Among them, there are also people who continue to polish one skill.

Of course, the existence of someone who only polished one skill to the peak isn't weak, fundamentally they hold a lot of skills that can perform diverse attacks hence their overall evaluation is strong.

"Next by killing the warrior in the front using [Iron Cutter] and [Twin Slash] and mixing it with [Fear] he took their will to continue fighting along with [Valor], it was splendid.."

"I wonder if it is only because of [Fear] that fellow run away"

"Well, that might be also because there is too much difference in their level, the success rate for [Fear] isn't that high, because his level was much higher than the adventurer, the success rate increased...."

In that sense, what Halva meant is that 'the guys that have invaded was a small fry'

"That reminds me, what about magic attack? If I am not mistaken, the magician did throw a spell no?"

"That is only low level magic that reduces the damage. The blue armor also have effect of reducing the effect of flame, freeze and lightning as well, however if he was hit with two consecutive [Spear of Acid] then it might have been possible to deal some damage."

"I see"

Seeing that Alrac agreed with her, Halva continued her talk.

"It was the combination of [Dual Attack] and [Gale Movement] that killed the two escaping warrior. I think the warriors were killed earlier because it was much easier to let the magic users escape."

"Beside, the warriors took too much treasure"

The treasure of underground labyrinth can be said as a life of Arlac and Halva.

The money, jewelry, and of course the furnishing as well, and everything that was created at Underground Labyrinth was created based on their soul.

Of course everything that was created was genuine article, even though it was taken away from labyrinth it will not disappear. But, when it was taken outside of the labyrinth, that means they lost part of their soul.

But, there is still more treasure on the underground labyrinth.

Therefore, it didn't result in immediate death. But, if large quantity of the treasure or valuable treasure is carried out of labyrinth at that moment the two

of them will die.

For them, the treasure of the Underground Labyrinth is like their drops of blood.

In this sense, the judgment to kill the warrior that has taken too much of the treasure is right.

"By the way, I wonder if it is because it is the first battle, he only use [Iron Cutter] to kill the warrior and also use unusual skill like [Coercion] to intimidate the priest"

"It will serve as reference."

"Should we discuss about the defeated women adventurer?"

Halva returns to speak with her usual light tone.

Because the prisoner hasn't arrive yet, Alrac give instruction to continue.

"Ok. well, for the female adventurer, I let him exercise the skill [Suppress] from the beginning. This skill avoids the high rate of death instead of just reducing the damage. And the unfair [Unhealable Wound] which even with high ranking potion won't heal the only exception is with recovery magic but the effect will be drastically reduced."

"Did you thought of catching them alive from the beginning?"

"It is because Onii-sama said he wanted it like that."

Halva said while grinning happily.

When saying so, Alrac remember that he might've said something like that. He didn't think too deeply about it, but the Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity might have thought he is issuing an order.

In other words, the Knight interpreted it as to show his power.

```
"I see...."

"Hm? is something wrong Onii-sama?"

"No, it's nothing"
```

Alrac who noticed the mysterious action of the knight, without showing any agitation he face his sister with poker face.

Halva with have a blank look while thinking 'was there anything?' but for time being she continues to talk.

"Against enemy attack by chance he use [Parry], and attacked from that gap. When [Suppress] was being used, it isn't possible to use other skill, because the offensive ability of his weapon is high, it seems to be able to give damage without a problem. The skill [Weapon Destruction] that was used by the amazon. That is a skill that only can be used once a day, that means she was pretty cornered to use that! The success rate for [Weapon Destruction] is very low, for that there is a [Weapon Destruction Increase], physical strength and martial art bonus add up to it but even with that the gap wasn't reached to the weapon?"

"Is weapon magic difficult?"

"Yup, I think that redhaired woman afterwards was unable to fight with the weapon skills she possessed."

Although it is low rank magic skill, but to use it, will consume a lot of stamina. Necessary preparation was needed to destroy it.

"Well, if it is me it will be an easy victory."

Halva said that with a sense of superiority.

Alrac know that those words are the truth.

"Well, the magic equipment is precious. If possible I don't want it to break"

"Ah, yes! it isn't broken!"

While looking at the upset Halva with his blue cold eyes, Alrac continue to talk.

"Well, because the [Magic Weapon Weakness] is maintained while using the long sword in that way to inflict pain, but because of [Pain Invalidity] he doesn't feel any pain at all and will fight until his life force is run out because of his racial skill [Armageddon Knight]"

"It is because you run away when your life force is below half and you can't move because of the pain"

The life force is the evidence of being alive.

When you suffer a big wound, a lot of life force will be lost.

When you suffer from a terrible disease, the life force will gradually disappear.

When you are fighting there is a big difference between full and half status.

For example, if your chest was penetrated through with a spear, will you be able to fight like you always do? When you have a headache because of high fever, will you be able to run like you always do?

Usually it will be impossible.

But with the so called Knights of the End who appear at the end of the world, they are able to fight at their best even if they have a little bit of life force left.

Of course, there is legend that said they will appear when it is near the end of the world, but I don't know if it is true or not. What is certain is that the Knights of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity will continue to fight until all of their life force is spent.

"If perhaps, it didn't have the racial skill [The End of The Knight], It mightn't lost."

"It will become a good lesson not to underestimate human beings" "Yes!, you are right, Onii-sama!"

If there is another person that is using the same equipment, Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity might be defeated.

Naturally it will dedicate itself to immediately to victory against [Sword of Faith] and will fight without holding back.

"Finally, I will explain about the collars that use [Servant Creation]"
"Oh"

"The [Servant Creation] is the magic to make familiar, It is the same skill like how alchemist create a homunculus and automatons, The [Servant Creation] skill he uses is called [Hound Creation of Depravity] it is slightly different from the other [Servant Creation] skills"

"It is like how magician using a blood and alchemist using a chemical"

"Yup! Beside there is also a necromancer that use dead body, and Arcana magician sometime will use devil stone, But what it use is...."

"A human being"

"Correct~!"

Halva said it with sparkling eyes as if she was holding a toy.

"It can use [Hound Creation of Depravity] on defeated opponent that haven't died yet. As for Human being whom was attached with the collar, all the wound will be healed immediately and fully loyal hound to the knight. All the emotion and the mind will be sealed, and It will change into a hound that will act according to the knight order."

"Why the person who became a hound can cast a magic?"

"That is what is great about [Hounds Creation of Depravity]! The person that has become a hounds will not forget any skill or magic he/she have. It is possible to use it when it was ordered by their master."

"Certainly...."

"The Hounds is absolutely obedient to it's master order. It doesn't matter whatever it is friend, parent or siblings as long as it master order they will even kill their best friends or lover"

*""* 

What a bad taste.

Alrac swallow back the word that he almost let out unintentionally.

What is wrong with it?

Whatever it is suitable for people that has lost the battle, there is thin smile floated in her lips.

"However, their intelligence also falls to the same level of a dog, it is unsuitable to become a conversation partner or puppet. Later on when there is opponent that was stronger than the knight or somebody who has mental control resistance this skill can't be used on these people.."

"If you say it like that, is it not effective against a woman?"

"That is right.But I don't think there should be a special restriction on gender?"

Halva reply back with murmuring.

"The range where the hounds can move, is it only around 10m where the knight chains can extend to?"

"What about food and excretion?"

"According to the book, the hounds will become the same existence with the

Knight it is unnecessary to eat and drink. Well even if it is unnecessary it might go hungry! But I don't know anything about going to the toilet though~. It will be the responsibility of the master! Or should we let them eat what they throw out~?"

Ignoring Halva that has a wicked smile, Alrac thinks he have to made a place to produce food soon.

It isn't difficult to make inorganic thing like gold or jewel. But, it is a different story if it was food. It is difficult to produce bread and soup instantly.

There is no choice but to have the goblins buy food for a short while, instead of losing money, it will be drops of blood.

Fortunately there is secured water source, looks like there will be no problem with water for now, anyways we need to become self-sufficient early on.

"Alrac-sama! Halva-sama! I have brought the prisoner!!"

It looks like Purrukku has arrived.

For now Alrac will leave the matter about food at the corner of his mind and gave permission to enter.

Purrukku and the poorly armed goblin entered and carried the leader of [Sword of Faith] on a stretcher who was groaning due to pain and the tied priest Derito whose face was becoming pale and they were brought before the masters of the labyrinth.

[TLC/Editing note: The author can go copulate himself with his poor naming sense on people or skills. Apparently he was not Chuuninbyou enough to name good skills so he used words that described actions.]

[TL note: because of the reason above I don't think I will be able to continue translating this series for long since some of the skill/monster name is so horrible

to read that if I didn't get help from TLC and reference from previous translator I don't think I can do it. I will still do chp 7 but don't expect it to be fast.]

## **Chapter 7**

Hey MTLAnon here. sorry for the lack of chp this December. I have been busy working around and getting sent from one place to the other place this month. I even only able to go back to my home for 3 day this month. To make up for lack of chp and since it is 2 month anniversary for this site I will do a mass release today no need to be afraid since I already finish TL all the chp I plan to release today and only need editting, this is the chp I finish edited before I go to sleep and will be automatically posted on the specific time.

Derito was taken by the goblin to the depth of the labyrinth.

The Goblin that was in front of the group, Purukku give a shout in front of the door.

"Alrac-sama! Halva-sama! I have brought the prisoner!!"

What a huge door.

The door that was drawn with picture of devil and angel fighting each other with their weapon make a sound as the door slowly open.

"Ora, Walk!"

Purruku say roughly

Even though Derito was in fear, he walk inside slowly.

The place where he enter was called [King Space]

He hold his breath because of the amazement when he enter the room, remember where he is, he focus his attention to look for the master of this room.

"You have come, intruder."

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"Umu, welcome."
```

They were located at high place, from there they can look down on them.

Alrac and Halva, the 2 sibling was sitting on the king throne, and look down on Derito.

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"First, How about telling us your name first?"
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"— auxiliary, Falsehood Judgment."

It wasn't permitted to lie in front of her elder brother, that is why Halva cast the magic that can detect lie.

"I wouldn't recommend you to lie~"

Seeing how intimidating Alrac is, the smile that was suitable to Halva age bloom on her face.

```
"Um, Derito.... is it"
```

"The man that was groaning there?"

"Tiles, he is our leader."

So, please don't ask me anything more is what he think, but the next word shattered his wish.

"He seems to be injured. Derito instead of him, you will answer the question."

"Y, yes"

His body was shaken.

After answering all his question, what will happen to him?

When thinking about it, he almost go mad because of fear.

Halva can feel what is on his mind and tell him kindly.

"Don't worry. If you answer our question properly, you will be spared."

"Eh, is that.... true?"

"Isn't that right. Onii-sama?"

"..... I think it is fine. Derito, I will let you together with Tiles to leave this labyrinth safely."

"But, will you answer the question earnestly?"

Because of Halva Intimidating word, Derito nods his head many time like a fool. Even though it is only a verbal promise, he is willing to cling on it.

"It is not that difficult. Tell us all about topography and the power of surrounding area that you know."

"Y, yes"

There is a reason why Alrac and Halva need the information regarding surrounding area.

To create underground labyrinth, it is necessary to do it on specific place at night in the period of 10 years cycle, because the time till 10 years cycle till they founded this place almost approaching, they need to possess necessary tool and minimum of information.

What they know at most was that this place is a forest, near this place there is small mountain, there should be one city nearby when Ferian Kingdom still exist.

When they think this place as their base, it will be troublesome if there is no information avaliable.

In this sense Derito have the information they want.

When they attack the goblin village, they would need to gather enough information from surrounding area, so he should have no trouble to talk about

"First...., there should be a city north from here."

"Yes, there is city called Bendole"

"How many people live there? and the soldier?"

"The population is about 10 thousand, as for the soldier.... there should be about 400 people. But, they will be able to gather militia and mercenary in case of emergency, and it will become increase to 3500 people. If they gather it from surrounding village, it might become more than 5000 people...."

It seems he have calmed down, he probably relieved knowing that his life will be spared, so the priest pull all the knowledge he know from his mind and answer it smoothly.

Bendole, it might be one of the small city in this world.

But, they have thousand of army, if they decide to attack the current labyrinth they will able to crush it, it seems like the danger was right under their nose.

We need to enlarge the labyrinth soon, Alrac take a note in his heart.

"Who was the person that attack the Goblin village?"

"The man name is Jarre. He was a knight from Bendole, he often lead an expedition to subdue goblin or thief."

"In Bendole, there is also expeditionary force?"

Halva join the talk.

After reorganized the information in his mind, Derito answer.

"Yes, there is corps that defend the city when it was attacked, there is also a patrol corps that was guarding the road between the city."

"Defense corps, Patrol corps, did you know the name of the person that leading it? or the rumor about it?"

"Defence corps was lead by old knight named Hyudo, the patrol corps captain was the second son of Bendole lord, Herekken. I didn't know the rumor about the defense corps captain Hyudo. But, Herekken was famous as hated person. Under the pretense of temporally tax collection, I hear he often take the supply or woman from the villages."

"I see...."

"By the way, Did you adventure often fight together with them?"

"No, it depend on the content of the request."

Thinking about the request they accept this time, he can't helped by cursing Tiles on his mind, but Derito didn't show it on his face.

"Then next, tell me the topography and the threat from the surrounding area."

"First, about marshland...., there is 5 marshland around here. there are 2 between this place and the city, there is not any particular dangerous creature. the remain 2 was located on the east from this place, and the other one was south from here. At the eastern marshland there was a place called [Quagmire Jaw] it was the inhabitant of huge crocodiles. They was able to swim on the swamp easily, it was said that they are very ferocious when they eat their prey. At the south, it was the home of pill bugs that was the size of cow called [Poisonous Meat Eating Insect]. Just like what their name suggest they also eat meat, that is why, usually peddler and traveller avoid them."

[TL: For those who curious about Pill bug]

Hearing the answer, Halva seems to be disappointed and sigh.

For her elder brother Alrac to form a contract with the monster, he need to establish contract based on the negotiation between them, a Pill Bug and Crocodile willn't be able to negotiate. If he want to include it on our fighting force, he need to control it with magic.

When people said that controlling the creature by magic is easy, they are an amature.

Certainly there is a lot of magic that can control the creature, like [Charm] or [Friendship] If you use such a magic you can easily take control of them, However, it will not last forever. We might be able to expect permanent effect if we use [Group Control] and [Brainwashing], But, because what we will be control is animal, If we didn't order it to eat or excretion it will die in a week. The exception will be if we use [Complete Dominance] and [Everlasting Lover] but the compensation using such a magic is big, so it was a waste to do to control a crocodile and a pill bug.

In other world, it is a magic that was not suitable for master-servant relationship.

In particular for Alrac and Halva. When they need to prepare a large number of army, it will be very inconvenience.

But, the story was difference if it the monster was to be placed in a labyrinth.

"Goblin...., did you guys know the location of various monster village and barbarian tribe?"

"There is about 10-100 Goblin village out there. But, I don't know about their location. If it is around marshland, there might be lizardman around, but I didn't have the evidence about it. On the small hill in the west, there is human settlement on small mountain called Mt Dahl, I hear that is the homebase of small group of thief."

Hearing the word 'thief', Halva eyes brightened.

She has extraordinary interest to those that were called evil and unjust.

To suppress his younger sister that want to say something, Alrac ask a different question.

"Is there any village around here? How many are they? and what is their

scale?"

"E, er... there should at least 3 village around here. The scale should be around hundred people, there are hardly any human that can fight there."

"Is that so"

Hearing what Halva and Alrac said, does this mean when the time comes, they will set their sight on the village and plunder their food?

"Is that enough?"

"En~, it is. Onii-sama"

The 2 judge the information on this degree should be enough for now.

Derito, and Tiles that was groaning because of pain wait for their next word.

Will they keep their promise or will they break it, their fate will be decide now.

"Then, lets...."

Before Alrac can said the next word, The sound 'Chink' of chain was heard on [King Space]

Hearing this sound, Derito face seems to become pale, and Tiles that always groaned give a miserable scream 'HIII'.

"Wait a moment...., Halva let him in"

Derito hear him telling Halva to open the door.

When the girl with raven-black hair nods to this word, the huge door open by itself.

Infront of the door, there was Azure Knight

It hold a chain in his hand like a bridle, at the end of the chain there is 6

woman that was crawling like a dog.

"Enter"

"Yes!"

In respond of his master word, the Azure Knight enter the [King Space]

The woman that was tied to the chain begin to walk following the movement of the knight.

The sight look immoral or obscene.

Tiles wasn't able to watch this scene because of his constant groaning. But, the two sibling that was seated on Emperor throne, Alrac seems to look expressionless, while Halva is having fun, Derito has surprised expression on his face, when he saw the figure of woman that was connected to Azure Knight by chain.

The Knight step forward a little bit from Derito, and give a bow.

[TL: I seriously have some weird B]

"I have finish the task according to your order"

"You did well. I'll grant your wish and allowed you to serve as our subject"

"I'am very happy and thankful"

"The treatment will be the same like the knight. You will receive a reward depend on your merit in war."

"By your will"

Listening to the deep voice that was lowered by several octaf come out from the knight helmet, him seems to be satisfied.

"Now, let's continue our talk. Derito, as well as Tiles. Thank you for your cooperation. I will let you out from the labyrinth safely."

"Jus, just a moment please!"

Derito cry out.

Halva saw Derito that was looking at Alrac expressionless face in wonder.

"What is it?"

Arlac asked.

The word was heavy and cold, but he seems intended to hear him out.

Derito take a deep breath and give a request to the master of the labyrinth.

"Releasing from the labyrinth...., Instead of us, Can I request it for them?" His voice echoed louder that what he though in this big labyrinth.

## **Chapter 8**

MTLAnon brought you 2nd chapter of the day. The rest of the chp will be released as soon as I finish editing them.

"Derito, you.... WTF are you saying! Don't play around!"

Hearing Derito plea, Tiles bears his pain and cry out.

Looking on his leader that was screaming with cold eyes, Derito kneels down and speak to Arlac.

"This, I think you will benefit from this as well."

"Ho, it seems to be interesting. Continue...."

"Hurry, Hurry, RIGHT NOWWWWW!"

"You are so noisy! Don't disturb onii-sama talk! Purukku, Shut the man up!"

"Yes!"

Purukku approach Tiles that keep yelling, and he put dirty cloth to his mouth to silence him.

Because it was quite rough, if it was done poorly he might stop breathing and die, but, at this place including Derito, no one care about the whatever Tiles life or death.

Seeing it already quiet down, Alrac begin to prompts him to speak.

"Now, you can continue"

"Yes. the reason why you let some of our teammate escape, was so they will inform about the existence of this labyrinth, and it will invite the adventure like us here, is not that true?"

"Why did you think so?"

"A labyrinth such as this, even if there are no one talk about it, there should have some rumour about it. But, when we do information gathering we didn't know about this labyrinth. There are 2 possibility. First, the person that knew of the existence of the labyrinth has been killed. Or Second, this labyrinth was made just recently"

"…"

"If it was the former, then that is no way you will let our party member escape, With the strength of the knight over there, It is not difficult to kill the priest and mage that has escape. But, when I think that there are almost no trap or monster, I feel that the latter was more convincing."

*"…"* 

"I don't know how you are able to create a labyrinth. But, when I think about all the reason I miss, I can't get any answer other than that, you want to call people to this labyrinth with the treasure as a bait."

While looking at the priest that was able to see through his plan plainly, Alrac said.

"Assuming what you said is true, why I should let the woman go?"

"Because, if the story only come from our member that escape, than the human that escape from this labyrinth was too few."

"Is it because the people they can tell was only several people?"

"Yes, the reason is because the Knight was too strong."

Derito remember when his teammate from [Sword of Faith] was killed.

No matter how attractive the treasure is in this place, there wouldn't be many people that will come if they knew the strength of the creature that protect it for example like a dragon.

Adventure that was aiming to get rich, is very sensitive to the danger to his life.

0

"Then, isn't it useless to free this woman then? These woman knew how fearsome my knight is."

"No, it isn't useless."

"Hum?"

"I want them to assume the duty that they already defeat the knight"

If the dragon that reside in a cave already been defeated, It was particularly a gold mine.

"Will this woman cooperate with it?"

"I would make them cooperate!"

Derito raise his face looking at Alrac.

For a while, the eyes of the priest and the master of the labyrinth meet.

"..... I might do what you suggest, but, why are you helping this woman?"

Alrac ask because he doesn't understand his reasoning.

He look at Derito stern blue eyes

Derito swallow his saliva and speak what is in his mind.

"At this moment, it is only me that can help them.... and, when I think it like that, my mouth move with I realize it"

"Did you have no regret?"

"Yes, but I can't feel at ease if I abandon this woman here.."

"Well"

"I'm cool with it~"

Halva laugh as a response to Alrac word.

"Will you release the woman?"

"By your lord wish."

With the word of the master of the labyrinth, the Azure Knight answer it without any attachment.

"Halva, what did you think?"

"I think it is okay. I did not intend to use them for anything particularly anyway!"

Did she lost interest? Halva answer like she is throwing away the toy that she was tired with.

Did she get interest on Derito instead? she ask so she can appraise him.

"But Hey", if we release the woman instead you and that man over there, are you okay with it? Perhaps, you might be killed immediately you know."

"If possible I want to escape from this place immediately, since I didn't find

```
anything here anyway. However...."
  "However?"
 "To protect the woman even though it means dying, I think it isn't bad for a
man last moment"
  "What a selfish guy~"
 [TL: what a sweet guy, it make me have diabetes.]
  Her smile became wider and Haluva say to her elder brother.
 "Un, I like it. Onii-sama! Let's go with what this man suggest!"
  "Allright"
  "Th, then...."
  "Derito, we will accept your suggestion. The woman will be set free. It was
unplanned this time..., but after working on a little bit more of the detail, let's
carry out the plan. Is that ok?"
  "Than, Thank you very much"
  "Instead, you will become our subordinate and work for us. you will not have
any problem with it right?"
  ".... Yes. I understand."
  "Don't worry, even though it is a little you will receive your wages."
```

" " ....

"Depending on your work, you might be able to go to the ground"

On the face of battle, he might not be that useful, but Alrac have take interest on Derito. Halva simply like strong being, and Alrac like a person that was quickwitted.

Of course, Arlac and Halva aren't stupid.

They have outstanding knowledge about magic, and know quite a lot about labyrinth.

But, beside that, they are slightly ignorant about human thought like this time in particular. To make up for that. it is necessary to have human collaborator.

"Just incase, I will warn you first. Even if you think your life isn't precious and betray us. Then, at that time don't think you can die easily."

```
"Y, yes...."
```

Seeing Derito lowering his head, Alrac nods slightly.

When the talk was finished, the head of Goblins Purukku call his master.

"Arlac-sama! Halva-sama!"

"Hm? what is the matter Purukku?"

"This adventure has killed a lot of our tribe member! To set them free like this, and to add them as our subordinate, how will I able to convince our fellow tribesman!"

The head of goblin said, while keeping his urge to kill and only glare on them.

Certainly, that was reasonable. Alrac and Halva was looking at each other.

The guy that has killed their fellow tribesman now become their friends, If they are on their shoes they will never be able to tolerate it. It was not possible to tell the goblin to endure it.

However, it will be wasteful if they cancel the agreement they have just know.

"Nnnn", I got it! Onii-sama. There is a right guy for this!"

As she just remember, Halva look at the man that has cloth stuffed into his mouth and was struggling at the floor.

The leader of [Sword of Faith], Tiles.

"Purukku. I will give that Tiles to you. You can do whatever you want to him whatever to torture, kill or even eat him, do as you like."

"Is that true?!!!"

"Mm!? MMmmnnnn!!!!!!"

Halva and Purukku have cruel smile on their face.

Tiles that already hear their talk began to scream.

"Derito, you don't mind do you?"

"..... It's inevitable. He was our leader, and in such a time, it is proper for him to shoulder all the responsibility on his back."

To Alrac word, he show some hesitation but Derito answer it properly.

With that, It was the same like signing his death execution form.

"Good then, Purukku. I will give you the right of this man life or death to you, like what Halva said. In compensation of Derito and the woman, are you okay with it?"

"Yes, yes, If it is such a thing...... Then, can we also have the corpse and the belonging of other adventures?"

The head of the Goblin has a vulgar smile on his face, Alrac said 'I don't mind' and give them permission.

"Then, there will be no problem anymore. I will let you take control on him."

In this way, the long discussion was ended.

\* \* \*

A few days later.

At the entrance of Labyrinth, there was the member of [Iron Warmaiden] and Derito as well as Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity that was standing and watching them from the distance.

"Then, we are here now. Please do like what we have talked before."

"En, I understood."

The leader of [Iron Warmaiden] Izuren nods many time on Derito words.

They will spread about the fact that the Knight have been beaten, the treasure of the labyrinth and the rough map to this place, they will talk about this story on Bendole from now on and this story will raise the interest of the adventure.

[TL: The leader of [Iron Warmaiden] on previous translation was written as Yslaine but I change it to Izuren instead because it was what MTL give to me. so to not be confused in the future I change it like this.]

"Lorna, jen, you will be staying?"

"Un, I will be here with Derito."

While saying so, Lorna look on Derito side.

He was embarrassed and give a wry smile, and he said [I will be going first], and return to the labyrinth.

The memory when Izuren was being controlled by the knight was clouded, she just remember that Derito was the one that save them. The Knight Corias, the magician Eto, and the priest Vena also have the similar condition, Lorna and Jen seems to remember the things at that time as well.

Without thinking back the danger to his life, Derito came and save them.

Lorna was begging the master of the labyrinth so she can stay together with Derito.

Hearing her story, Alrac without any expression said 'do whatever you want', and Halva said 'Love, it was good ja ne. It was good ja na. I think it was good' and permit them to stay.

Rather, it was Derito that desperately persuade them and said it was dangerous to stay here.

'hesitate for a little bit' 'you misunderstanding thanks with love' 'he didn't expect anything from it' 'Did you forget the terror of the labyrinth?' was used to persuade her to escape.

But Lorna throw all the persuasion aside, on the contrary she told how long she love Derito instead, when he was told that his face turns red, Moreover did he intend to continue living in the labyrinth alone? contrary he was being persuade back instead.

The Figure of Lorna at that time was sincere, that even Izuren that have traveling together with her has never seen it before, It was passionately.

[TL: Damn you side character and your love story]

"Maa, they will need a guard"

In the case of jen, because she want to pay the debt for saving her life and saying that they will need warrior to fight anyways, so she request to stay

behind. When the master of the labyrinth hear this, he approve it and don't mind at all.

Derito try to persuade her, but she doesn't have ear to hear from the beginning anyways and said 'I will not change my mind', she wish to stay at the labyrinth.

"Well then, see you"

"Thank you very much for all you have done"

"Hang in there"

Because we will not meet again, she said goodbye for the last time.

It was brief, but they will always stay in her heart, when the reserved thief and spirited female warrior that had adventure together with her disappear back into the labyrinth.

Izuren pray.

For their safety and their heart will not be seized by the darkness of the labyrinth.

"Everyone, we will spread the information that [Iron Warmaiden] will be dissolved."

There is no objection from other member.

Then, with the speech as the signal, they carry the bag which contain the treasure from the labyrinth on their back.

For Alrac and Halva, that wanted to avoid losing the treasure, it was necessary sacrifice, so they permit it to let them take the treasure out of the labyrinth.

This treasure will be the evidence that they obtain after defeating the Knight.

After selling the treasure and divide it into 4 portion it will still quiet a fortune.

She will start an inn with this money.

While considering such a thing, Izuren begin to walk.

Toward the City of Bendole.

## **Chapter 9**

After repelling the intruder, Halva was working restlessly.

She was building a room as the order from his Elder brother.

In addition of basic labyrinth creation skill like [Creating Circuit] [Creating small room] [Creating Large room], Application room like [Trap Creation] [Special room Creation] was also being used to expand Underground Labyrinth.

Currently, there is more than 200 big or small passage at Underground Labyrinth, 84 small room, in addition of 27 Large room and the room from when the labyrinth was first created. This amount isn't that big deal.

Because it doesn't cost anything, it was created as much as her brother want.

Because Arlac didn't have Labyrinth Creation skill, it wasn't possible to help, so basicly it was left to Halva to handle.

In other word, the interior of the labyrinth was entire according to her taste.

But, some of it was ordered by her elder brother.

Presently, there is only 1 way to reach the ground, it was because the skill to make [Entrance], [Underground Labyrinth Entrance Creation] was disable. It was because currently, there isn't enough war power that can be divided to protect 2 entrance or more. Afterward, she was told to create several special rooms. Moreover, she was told to set the traps, up to 50 at max but, the rank of the trap would be on the lowest side, only low ranked trap was allowed to be created. Naturally, a great deal of magic was needed to create a trap room and special room even for Inferior room outside of Labyrinth, that is why it was prohibited.

However, in this labyrinth where many Human will visit, If they continue to

save their magic power, in not distant future they might be able to make a room outside of the labyrinth.

For now, they just finish set up the trap.

It's only disposable type of trap which was used as a warn them of enemy invasion and to restrict their movement. The trap was set in various part of labyrinth so this was used to annoy the intruder, that is there are no deadly trap here. The most fearsome one was only to entrap them inside the room by blocking their exit door when they close the door while searching the room. However, a thief like Lorna will be able to find their way out immediately, if they keep the door open, they didn't need to worry about getting caught up.

Halva isn't interested in such inferior trap, after finished setting all of it properly, she was wondering what kind of room she will make next.

"Now, what kind of room should I make~"

While playing with her long raven-black hair that reach her feet, she has evil smile plastered on her face.

"Did you have any request?"

The person she ask was a goblin.

The head of Goblin, Purukku was called by her elder brother, so he wasn't here.

They are here as the escort for Halva by the order of their head. Of course, Halva didn't need an escort such as Goblin. Rather, they was a drag.

But, It was wasteful for his elder brother to leave his post, so she receive order to show them the labyrinth, Halva wasn't able to decline it either.

And, After sometime has passed, Halva that can't continue walking in silent start to talk.

Even though 4 of the goblin was shivering because of fright, one of them still answer the girl question.

"Whatever Halva-sama please...."

thump, he was hitted lightly.

The one who hit him was Halva. While smiling, she said to the Goblins.

"Are you that troubled to answer? than, what is your answer?"

"Hii!"

"Hey Hey, don't be frightened~"

Without her knowing, her killing intent was seeped out of her body, to calm the frightened goblin, Halva Sigh with 'Haaah' and said.

"I will not kill or bully you. It will be good if you can just answer my question properly."

"A, ano~"

" N? what is it?

"To begin with, what is special room?"

[TL: Ano is equivalent with excuse me in english]

The goblin that was different with the first goblin that answered her question before, asked.

This was reasonable question.

Halva explained it plainly.

"It was a room that was maintained by magic power. It will increase the power of existence that was residing in the labyrinth, the special room will be able to restore a person's life force similar to secret room, where magic weapon and armor was able to be stored inside a book, that is special room."

"I, I see. Then, what room can Halva-sama create?"

[TL: I am not really sure with the explanation about explanation of special room, I will go back to it when I ask other translator about it.]

Hearing Goblin question, Halva smile and answered.

```
"I can build anything~"
((((That isn't an answer!))))
```

The Goblin tsukkomi it on their heart

But they didn't even have an inch of courage to say that out loud.

Her appearance look like normal Human girl, But when you look closely.

She look fearsome.

She looks like a Dragon that was in form of Human.

If possible, they didn't want to speak.

The thought about ignoring it make them want to cry. without understanding the hearth of this weakling, Halva continue to urge the Goblin to give a recommendation.

"After all, is it important to train the body? 7 out of 10 people might die, But, if we train the remain 3 person, I wonder if they will become Elite Soldier? That reminds me, amongst you is there any that was born with the talent of magic? It might be good to learn a spell that was stored at the library. But most of the

people that try to learn it get destroyed by the spell and become a cripple though..... Ah, it also was hard to throw away the weapon that contain fearsome curse on it~"

While playing with her beautiful raven like black hair that was reaching her feet. The girl seems to talk for a long time like a fish in a water.

Of course, the goblin can't understand most of what she say. However, they pretend to be interested on the outside, even though they are sleepy because they didn't understand what she was saying, but, they still make a serious face and pretend to hear her talk.

"..... Therefore, I don't think it is bad idea for jail and torture room. well, there is other thing like food storage."

"I think food storage is good!"

"Food storage only!"

"Food storage please!"

"Food storage!!"

The moment the talk go toward food storage, The Goblin jump out and join the talk.

For an instant, Halva have surprised look on her face, but suddenly it change into a proud smile.

"Then, let's build the food storages~"

For Halva, the Goblins and Derito was akin to pet.

As an owner, A meal and something to pass their time need to be prepared, she activated the skill [Special room creation] [Food storage].

When she use the skill that only the master of the labyrinth can use, Halva was filled with strange sensation of satisfaction, at the same time, part of Underground Labyrinth start to change.

In the blink of eyes the room that was already created has changed completely.

There aren't anything change in it size

But the room seems can fit dozen of people and more, a pillar which was beamed with green light as if they are made of emerald was formed in the middle section of the room that have nothing until now. A picture of beautiful spirit was drawn on it surface, that seems to promise an abundant harvest.

The central pillar seems to reflect the form of spirit, that seems to be confined inside the emerald.

The leather bag where the wheat can be stored inside, Large pan for soup, The jar to store honey, and other storage equipment that seems necessary was overflowing.

```
"Oh, Such a place!"
"Wonderful"
"Food!"
"Look for it!"
"Meat!!!"
```

Halva become full of herself.

The Goblin immediately enter the mysterious room that was appear in front of them, and begin to look for food at once.

However,

<sup>&</sup>quot;Halva-sama! the cointain of the bag is empty!"

```
"The pan too!"

"The jar too!"

"There is nothing!"
```

The Goblins knowing there is no food were grieving on this room that only have grand appearance.

"Well here is, the storage room. If you didn't put any food inside of course there will be nothing on it"

```
"So, it can't be created using magic~!"

"Ahaha, Stupid, Stupid!"
```

Looking at the Goblins face Halva laugh happily, it was fun looking at the crying face of the Goblins that was ignorant about magic.

"The Creation system spell consumed a lot of magic power than what you can think, rather than using a magic to prepare a meal, It is much better to create an Artificial Human or Devil Beast!"

```
""""????""""
```

"Ma..., To explain it plainly, Because I can't waste a magical power at this moment, It was impossible to create a food"

With this word, the Goblins was disappointed.

However, Halva said 'don't be sad' and tell them the advantage of this room kindly.

"This room just like what it's name said, it was a food storage, but, all sort of food will not rot here, and the food freshness can be keep just like when it enter

the room."

"Eh, erm, in other words, what did you mean?"

"The bread and fruit will not be spoiled just like the time was stopped in the state before its enter the room. Even if the food was cooked 100 years ago, when you put it here, you can still eat it."

```
«"""????""""
```

To the Goblins that still didn't understand how wonderful this room is, Halva admonishing them kindly.

"Let's talk about something, did you guys ever hunt a big game?"

"We Have"

"Then, after you finish cook it and eat it till your stomach was full. However, there is still a meat that was still remain. What would you do?"

"I can't do anything about it, it will rot.... Ah!"

"Did you notice it?"

"The rest should be put on this room!"

"That is right, When you couldn't hunt a game, it could be taken out from this room. Store it at this place, and when you want it, it can be taken out from here"

The color of Goblins eyes change.

If the story was true, the number of their comrade that was dying because of starvation will fall sharply.

"Did you understand how wonderful it is?"

"Yes!"

"Maa, I will create a plantation where you can gather food ingredient and the

kitchen where the food can be cooked next."

Even though she grumbling how troublesome it is, hearing her word the Goblin's eyes brightened.

Looking at them, Halva has wicked smile on her face.

```
"Well", Did you guys do your work properly?"
```

"Ye,yes"

"Don't misunderstand, failure isn't permitted, If you are ordered to die, you will do so while smiling."

"…"

"If you are able to tell the reason why you fail and able to link it to the next time then I will permitted, If you are able to show me a good plan than what was ordered I will adopt it"

Her beautiful blue eyes was looking at the Goblins.

Though it seems like a gentle words, the feeling of fear was penetrated into the goblin heart.

"However. All of you must be loyal to us, I will not permit a lie, I will not permit laziness, and I didn't permit any illicit sex."

```
"Y, Yes!"
```

"Because onii-sama was gentle, He might permit it.... However! I will not permit it. Never!!"

"Hiii!!"

[TL: there goes my hope for harem.... Arlac you are my last hope!]

Was that anger they sense on her last word? the Goblins was close to tears and prostate their head against the ground. they are praying desperately that she will not pointed her anger at them.

Looking at the Goblins that have dropped to the ground with cold eyes, she lightly sigh with 'Haah', and speak with bright voice.

```
"Ahahaa, Don't be afraid. Ah, it hurt"

"..... Ye, yes"

[TL: the hurt is because of laughing]
```

To the goblin that was still shivering, Halva tell them to return today and take a rest.

Originally they didn't need to stick together, so there will be no problem.

```
"See ya"
```

Saying so, when she was going to cast a transferring spell, the Goblin stop trembling and said.

```
"Jus, Just a moment please"

"yes, we will go together."

"Because we are the guard...."

"Pro, Protect!"
```

Looking on the Goblins, Halva have blank face for a moment, and then smile innocently.

"Who is the guard...., maa, alright. I will receive your sincerity."

Saying so, while Halva was humming, they advance to another labyrinth room.

While the goblin was standing behind her timidly, but, they still walking so they will not lose the sight of her.

## **Chapter 10**

Alrac was standing at [King Space], He was giving a name to Azure Knight.

"Knight of Judgement Commanding the Hounds of Depravity, your name will be Teerukisu. While you serve us, that will be your name."

"May I ask the origin of my name?"

"That was the name of the man who was the knight of our empire. He was chivalrous knight and die protecting my father."

"I understood. then from now on, I will introduce myself as Teerukisu. I promise I will fight till I die for my master"

"I am expecting it"

"Ha!"

Arlac was looks down on his subordinate Teerukisu that was bowing coldly.

Alrac was thinking.

His loyalty was abnormal, Certainly [Evil charisma], [Young Dark Nobleman], [Wicked soul], was a skill that will give a large boost for negotiation with those monster and creature that was considered to be evil.

But, it is strange for their loyalty to extended till they die.

Is Teruukisu a special case, or he was scheming something deep in his heart.

'Maa, it doesn't matter.'

If he betray me, I will kill him.

If he was loyal, I will reward him.

It was simply like that, after that he give the order to Teerukisu.

"Terrukisu, you will go to the surrounding goblin village, talk to them so they will move to this labyrinth. But, don't use too much force. Tell them about the labyrinth, if they decide to join us I will protect their clan."

"What should I do if they attack?"

"Umu, there is also that kind of possibility. When you are under attack, I permit you to counter attack. But, If it was possible don't kill them."

"Yes,sir"

"Another thing, if you spot the patrol from Bendole, annihilate some of their member. According to Derito story, the number seems to be several dozen of people."

"Allright."

"Refrain using [Hounds of Depravity] to make them as your subordinate as much as possible. But, if you really want it then, I will allow you to use it."

"I have understood everything"

"Then, go"

Looking at the Knight who was bowed and left [King Space], he look on other people that was kneeling elsewhere.

The head of Goblin Purukku, the female warrior Jen, as well as the thief Lorna that choose to stay behind together with the priest Derito.

It's 4 people in total.

The [King Space] that was able to hold 100 people seems empty with so few of people.

Because they were swallowed up by intimidating air that Alrac released from the king throne, all the people that was at this place was silence.

```
"Purukku"
"Y, yes!"
```

With Alrac word, The head of goblin answered while trembling.

"How many Goblin that can be gathered from around this area?"

"Yes, it depend on how the Knight persuade them...., probably several hundred...., it was possible to gather around 500 Goblins.

"500, I see.... it also related to the food issue. If they are starved to death then we will not be able to use them. We need to keep improving their value, we also need to teach the children that will born soon. I wonder will they keep being useless?"

Averting his eyes from Purukku that keep lowering his head deeper, he was looking on the Human side.

"It is also the same to you, Derito. Because I though you will be of some use, I keep you alive unlike Tiles. Don't betray my expectation, if you do, you and the woman that love and stay with you will become a food for the Goblins."

"Yes, I understand."

"Arlac-sama, will that be okay?"

Purukku warns while lowering his head.

"Depending on the head of goblin tribe, there might be a tribe that will attack this Labyrinth."

"At that time, I will deal with them. Is there any problem?"

"Of course not!"

When he finish listening to Purukku, Alrac look at his subordinate coldly and said.

"Because there is talk about food shortage, you can withdraw for now. Later on, when I was able to obtain food, I will call on you guys. You are free to do whatever you wish until that time."

When Alrac wave his hands for them to withdraw, all the member left [King Space] like they are escaping.

Seeing that everyone already disappear, Alrac briefly chant the magic spell

"...... Transmission, fragment of light."

When the spell was casted, the crystal the size of pebble appears on Alarc hand.

"Jii, can you hear me?"

"This is prince Alrac voice. Yes, I can hear you clearly!"

[TL: I am guessing that Jii is the shortened version of Jiji which was old man]

The crystal light was flickering, at the same time an aged voice was heard.

"It has been long time."

"From the looks of it, It seems like you have success creating [The Wickedly Vicious Underground Empire.]"

"Yes, It worked well."

"KUKUKUKU, Splendid, it was wonderful! as expected of the lineage of Imperial Family of Magic Empire. It take hundread of year for me to reach this state, but for you it only take 5 years...."

"Jii"

He stopped the Old man word that was taking too long.

"Whoops, I'm sorry, what can I help you with?"

"Ah, I want to ask for something."

"What is it?"

"I want food."

"Hoo, How much did you want?"

After thinking for a while Alrac said.

"For time being, I want the amount that can support 1000 human for 1 month."

"KUKUKU, is this a joke?"

"I dislike making a joke."

"Prince, why did you need it? We should discuss it after you finish building the Labyrinth. At that time you can recruit a soldier while securing the food. And gradually expanding your force."

"The case is that something unexpected happen."

"Haa..., I wouldn't ask what happen. But, it is impossible for me. If it is around 100 people I might be able to manage it, but when it became 1000 people...."

While listening to the old man voice, Alrac forget to mention something and

added.

"Jii...., you are Master of Magic. If it was impossible for you to do it, then you might have an idea who can do it. If they need money, they just need to say how much they need."

"..... I understand. Yare yare, Looks like I still can't live at ease."

"Sorry about it."

"No problem, No problem, I understand, you really resemble your father and grandfather. When they protect the goblin by trading oak with them, they shut the neighboring country up over and over again...."

"Jii"

Alrac interrupt his teacher word again which seems like he will complain for eternity, and said.

"At that time for those that defy the Empire, will be punished no matter whatever you are a Human or a Goblin. For those that was willing to follow them will be given appropriate reward according to their work. That is why I want to success that will."

"Ha, I can guess what you want to do."

"Don't cause a trouble."

"I will send a travelling merchant now. However, some fund was necessary."

"I will sent it immediately."

"Thank you very much. One more thing prince, I will give you one piece of advice."

"What is it?"

"Goblin was a petty creature, when their number increase too much they will do some stupid thing. You mustn't show any opening. when they increase too much, you should find a suitable reason to kill them."

"..... I will keep that in mind"

With that last word, the white crystal became gray and disappear.

"..... Transfer, Material Transmission"

Alrac imagine the treasure on treasure storage and move it to the old man home, and he cast the spell.

Because the fund was necessary to acquire food, he sent it using magic.

Because this fund was part of the labyrinth, if it was taken outside, naturally, Alrac and Halva will receive the damages. but, it was not be a serious injury. The pain is like getting your finger cut lightly.

To heal this wound, a dead soul was necessary.

There is no feeling of grieve when they become soul eating monster.

Because their heart already dead.

As for Halva, the act of devouring a soul is a pleasure for her.

Alrac doesn't think like that, but he also doesn't hate it.

But, he think this kind of degree is necessary for his revenge.

He want to destroy all the country that attacking the Empire as soon as possible.

While thinking of such thing, Because now Alrac have a helping hand now, he cast a spell.

"..... Transfer, near entrance of large room."

He mention the place he want to transfer and use [Teleportation], he also

activating the skill [Labyrinth Management Device], Immediately the chamber door close completely.

The Large room was considered wide, but it is not as wide as [King Space], in term of the number of people that can fit inside. The reason why he move to this room was to summon the existence that will protect this labyrinth from now on.

This room is not a special room. so he can't get a bonus when he summon. Then why did he choose this place? The reason was simple, the creature that he want to summon was in large quantity.

"..... Transfer, Demon Insect Secretary."

When he chant [Material Transfer] incantation, a thick small book that was bound to the corpse of insect appear. Alrac turns up the page expressionlessly, when he found the page he need, he chant the incantation to summon while leaving the page open.

"..... Summon, rotten fummed flies"

[TL: the Literal translation was large flies that emit the smell of rotten flesh yes blame the author for his namming sense.]

A red magic formation was created, from it a big flies the size of mouse appear.

1, 2, the number keep increasing, Looking at this situation with cold eyes, Alrac cast his next spell.

"..... Summon, Paralytic Arachnid."

[TL:Literal translation was Huge spider with a paralytic poison]

A yellow magic formation was created, A dog sized spider come out from it.

It has yellow colored body and red eyes, it has a viscous mucus on it 8 feets.

Without counting the number of spider that come out in sequence, he chant another spell.

[..... Summon, Skull-Eater Caterpillar]

[TL: Finally the author have put a good name here]

The purple formation appear, from it a green caterpillar the size of baby appear.

A green caterpillar that was mixing with the color of yellow that can give you the feeling repulse crawl out one after the other from the magic formation.

While maintaining this 3 magic formation, he stare at the swarm of insect that was being summoned coldly.

when they are alone it was not a strong existence, But when they are in large number, they will become a nasty opponent to the intruder.

After finish summoning several hundred of this creature, the magic formation close.

"I will employ this guy at the labyrinth exterior, so they can attack more easily."

While muttering so, he gave a simple order.

To expand the Labyrinth, they need to find and kill the intruder.

||Next Chapter>>

## **Chapter 11**

At Bendole city, [Lion Fang] inn.

It was 5 story building, with the first and second floor as a pub, and from the third floor above was an inn.

It was mainly visited by adventurers as it guest, some of the adventurer that had retired may come here and reminisce the past.

At [Lion Fang] inn, a rumour was starting to spread around.

"Oi, have you heard about it?"

"You mean about the labyrinth that was found by [Iron Warmaiden]?

The adventurer party that was participate on Goblin subjection [Sword of Faith] and [Iron Warmaiden] incidentally found an Underground Labyrinth.

The rumour said that there is pile of treasure and fearsome monster waiting inside.

[Sword of Faith] encounter that monster when they are exploring inside, and almost get wiped out.

[Iron Warmaiden] also lost two of their members, but somehow they was able to kill the monster.

The problem is the treasure.

When they convert the treasure 4 of them brought out into cash, and divide it equally, it is still considerable amount of sum.

"How much does each of them get?"

"From the story I heard, each of them was able to obtain 300 common gold coin."

"Didn't the story said it about 500?"

"Even if half of that story was true, with that amount of gold it was enough for them to retired as an adventurer."

If there is a person that was correcting the rumour, they must be shocked for sure.

Because one person share was 2000 common gold coin.

Incidentally, the amount of common gold that was used by citizen of big city from when they born until they die was amount to 1000 common gold coin. If it was citizen in self-sufficient farming village, the amount will sharply fall into 100 common gold coin.

In other world, if only one of them intend to use 2000 gold coin, they have earn enough for their entire lifetime. Of course, if they use it to start a business, getting married, and live in luxury the amount they will change.

"But hey", even though they have take the treasure with them, there should be other treasure left behind right?"

Said a drunkard.

But, another man that still sober speak up.

"There is that too. Somehow there is still more inside~"

"The Treasure!?"

"Yes"

Such conversation was discussed in many bar.

And, the figure of people gathering their friend and create instant party can be seen at some table.

"What about the location of the labyrinth?"

"It seems like the [Iron Warmaiden] sold the information to thief guild."

"Ok, Leave that side to me."

While watching energized adventurers, The master of the bar feel glad.

Recently, because of large scale attack to Goblin village one after another, it drop the Goblins population, some of Barbarian tribe even go into hiding. Because of this, the number of work such as guarding a caravan was reduced.

Because there is information about Underground Labyrinth.

It is reassuring them because there is a successful adventurer.

With the possibility of leftover treasure, most of unmanageable adventurer that has a lot of free time start to gather their friend to challenge Underground Labyrinth.

The master of bar pray for their success.

And, when they succeed they will come to one of their shop and to drink liquor.

\* \* \*

The rumour of Underground Labyrinth also spread out to people beside adventurers.

Order of Knight in the city.

Private room of expedition captain.

There was 2 man inside the room.

One of them is expedition captain Jahl which was the master of this room.

he was 40 years old man with seedy-look with neatly cut mustache, he wave his dirty blond hair lightly, his eyes was the same color with his mustache.

The other one is Jahl Adjutant.

He is still young. This young man just turn into 22 years old this year, he has auburn colored eyes and bright blond hair. To be able to become a Adjutant of Expedition captain at this age, there is no need to mention his skill to use sword, he was also highly educated and respected. But, Because the wage for Adjutant was not high, he was made to take part on his boss unfairness, he often had to pull the short end of the stick.

And, he think this time he also was about to pick up the short end of the stick too, while finishing his report.

While the expedition captain of Bendole Jahl play with his mustache that was cut neatly, he ask his Adjutant.

"There was a labyrinth in such place? why we never heard about it?"

"Y,Yes. I am sorry!"

Jahl ask his frightened Lieutenant while he appraise him, He walk slowly and tap his shoulder lightly.

"It seems like the adventurer party had obtained a lot of treasure from the Labyrinth."

"..... That is right."

"Is it a lot more than the treasure we seize from Goblin village?"

Jahl speak like he was teasing him, while looking at his Adjutant face.

His face looks pale, he knows his body was shivering from the hand that was on his shoulder.

"What's wrong? why are you shaking?

"I, I am sorry"

With his Adjutant apologizing, Jahl narrow his eyes and separate his hand from his shoulder.

"We should sent an expedition force toward that gold mine, it will be foolish, if we just to obtaining small amount of money from Goblin village."

"I, I will immediately dispatch the expedition force one more time!"

"Fool! We can't move it so many time over!"

With that thundering roar, the Adjutant close his mouth hastily.

Actually, I was not popular to move expedition troop often.

First of all, it was necessary for the lord to pay for the expedition expense.

For this reason, without the Lord permission, they will not able to prepare the march by securing food and re-recruit militia that already disbanded, buying new arms, and many other things. Beside, a day hasn't even passed since the expedition force was disbanded.

For example, even if there is gold mine right before their eyes, and the adventurers in the bar doesn't know about it, a Lord of the city will not move their army so easily. The Lord of Bendole in particular is a conservative man, he was showing a disapproval to attack the Goblin village until the last moment. Of course, it is not because he show a sympathy toward Goblins, this is because if he simply move the troops, he was concerned about the future yield of tax and the expedition expense.

".....Go"

"Yes?"

"Lead your subordinate and go to the Labyrinth! And collect the treasure!"

Jahl yell at his Adjutant.

The Adjutant understand what he means, so he argue in hurry.

"Captain Jahl, ju, just a moment please! we aren't an adventurer. I hear there is a monster lies hidden inside Underground Labyrinth, there is also a deadly trap inside as well. We the soldier only trained to fight human, if it was combined of monster and trap...."

"Silent!"

Jahl shout with anger while hitting his Lieutenant.

There is blood flowed out in the corner of the Adjutant mouth, he appeal without minding it.

"Ple, Please reconsider it."

"Quiet, quiet, Be Quiet! You should just carry out what I say you fool!"

While saying so, Jahl hit him several time more, he heave his shoulder while being out of breath and curse him.

"Listen, depart immediately! if you say you can't do it, I will charge you for a treason! and it is not only you. Your whole family will be kicked out of street! No, I will hang all of you up!"

**"!!!"** 

When he said it like this, the adjutant can't argue anymore.

Jahl was not only a short-tempered person, but also a cruel one.

Because he has the power to carry out what he said, he will carry out what he said a while ago without hesitating if he decline. The knight that had humiliate

Jahl before was banished. Without minding that the adjutant has served him with devotion for so many years, he will still carried out what he say.

"..... Yes, I understood."

When the adjutant salute, Jahl shout with angry voice 'Begin Quickly!'

When the adjutant leave the room, While cursing Jahl in his heart, he decide to summon all his subordinate.

\* \* \*

The small mountain where local pe called Mt Dahl.

It was the headquarters of small bandit group called [Rotten Wolf], it was located near Underground Labyrinth.

There is small fort at the heart of the mountain.

The building was made from stone, soil, and tree, so it somewhat have defense capacity.

In one of the room at the fort.

It is the room of the boss of thief group, Zarudo. Currently his subordinate was telling him the story of his travel and reporting the food and the weapon they bought from Bendole.

"So, the adventurer made a fortune in one night from the treasure they obtain from the labyrinth."

While listening to his subordinate story, the boss of thief group Zarudo gulp down his liquor.

He is around mid-30 years old with the bandage covered one of his eye, his hair was shaved neatly, he has bushed beard like a dwarf. Because he lead a ruffian bandit, he give off overpowering impression from his strong body, If a weak-

willed person meet him, he will prostrate himself immediately.

His skill in sword is good, Furthermore he use a scimitar that emanated a red glow that hide a power to burn his opponent who he cut.

He was a man that lead thief group [Rotten Wolf] that has 50 member in it, In time of crisis he will be able to gather and lead 100 thief quickly.

But, he was a troublesome fellow, he love to fight for money, liquor and woman, but he was loyal to his friend, he was enjoying this bandit business with his fellow friend.

"However, there a still a treasure inside the labyrinth, some reckless adventurer was ready to challenge the labyrinth. ..... even though we didn't take rumor seriously, but how about it?"

"Mmm, I don't think it is bad."

While saying so, he gulp down his liquor again.

While the subordinate was talking to Zarudo, in his room, there is 6 thief that acted as his bodyguard teasing 2 woman inside that room. While they were talking, the woman kept being teased, they are toyed like a doll until they can't cry and only show some small reaction.

After Zarudo finish speaking he sense a lecherous gaze from his subordinate eyes, he grin and tell him.

"Thanks for your trouble. Go and enjoy it too"

"Y, Yes!"

"They have been raped for almost 10 days, seems like they will die soon. Oh yeah, don't forget to dispose the body properly when they die."

The thief leader tell them ruthlessly.

The mens who is teasing the girl unanimously say

"Since they're sisters, their tightness seems to resembles each other"

"Maa, It's because boss has broken them down considerably."

"At first they scream and refused, but now it seems like they already giving up on screaming."

"Anyways, are they still useable?"

"I say, before long they will become a pig food."

"Oi, what are you saying? I wonder which one I should help myself with~"

When the woman hear their word they was twitching for instant, perhaps it was the elder sister, when the subordinate take off his cloth and attack her, nobody seems to mind it.

(If this woman die, it seems like I need to prepare a new one."

While thinking such a thing, Zarudo gulp down his liquor.

It's cheap liquor.

But, to drink liquor while watching a woman being raped is a pleasure for him.

While Zarudo enjoying this scene, he is considering the story about the labyrinth that his subordinate brought to him.

(Recently we only can watch the merchant that pass this area. Even if we attack a village it does not yield much, because Goblin villages was being crushed, we need to be cautious.)

All member here was a ruffian, since they only fight when they have confident to win, their productivity was low. Therefore, for food, daily necessity, and arms need to be bought from the city around here. Of course, if they attack farmingvillage and merchant for too many time, there is danger a subjugation team being sent like what happen to Goblin village.

They should think fast and calculate all possibility.

In other word, as long as it is not too showy the feudal lord will not move his soldier.

"..... The Underground Labyrinth, Let's go~"

He put down the empty bottle of the liquor, there is ferocious smile on his face.

At the same time, the woman that was being teased stop moving anymore.

## Chapter 11.5

The Goblins that just born was grow up quickly.

They born after 10 day of pregnancy, and was able to walk after being born, in a couple of day they already can remember a few simple word, after a week they already treated as an adult.

Of course, there are many of them that die in this 1 week period. Being premature born, Nutritional insufficiency, or die because of in-fighting.

The child that was born in Underground Labyrinth was around 200 Goblin, the number that has reached adulthood was around 50.

Still, Purukku seems satisfied with this.

Because only around 10 that was able to survive before, when he think about it, 50 seems to be a lot.

That is why, the goblin that has reach adulthood now, was undergoing training under the instruction of warrior Jen.

"First of all, Think about getting a hit! Watch the movement of your partner well, and hit them quickly!"

The sound of wooden sword clash against each other was echoes in the room.

They are using one of the large room, for goblin to perform simulation war.

The main instructor was Jen together with Purukku as her aide.

"All Right, take a small break."

After 1 hours has passed since they start training, Jen tell them to rest.

The goblin that just reach adulthood stretch their body and take a rest.

"How is it? Did you think they can be useful?"

"Aah, If they keep training seriously."

"That part was the most difficult."

Purukku say so while twitching his wrinkled face.

This time he has wry smile on his face.

Most of goblin was born with [laziness] Trait so they can't seriously work on the matter on hand. They are the race that can't make an effort to raise their strength steadily.

"I will not let them get the opportunity to slacking around while training them."

While saying so, Jen has ferocious smile on her face.

Seeing that smile, Purukku remember the Ogre which had protected their village before.

Jen possess [Combat Training] skill even though her proficiency isn't high, she was confidence that if the Goblins that just reach adulthood was trained to some degree, they will not be defeated by new recruit soldier. However, It is difficult to train them to become elite soldier.

"But, it isn't only a simple fight. The master of labyrinth was thinking to put them into formation, the story will be different again if we try to make them as a legion...."

"Will you be able to do it?"

"Unfortunately, it was impossible for me."

What Jen was doing now was to train them so they was able to fight one on one.

Alrac and Halva was thinking to produce army inside the labyrinth, so when they brought them outside, they will be able to move like an army and conquer the city. When it come to [Regiment Formation], [Unit Command], [Legion Command] and [Siege command] and other war skill, need a group battle skill.

Of course, Individual soldier was strong. but if a group of soldier was able to assemble into one proper formation clashed against a crumbling formation. If there is not much difference in their ability, the former will win no matter what.

Naturally Jen who was an adventure, doesn't have any experience to command an army.

Speaking of Purukku that had lead 1000 Goblins before, he naturally didn't have that skill. If he has such a skill. when his village was getting attacked, they should be able to resist more.

"Maa, just incase let's talk about that later"

"We will be in your care!"

"By the way, the rest will over soon."

"I understand! You guys! The rest is over! resume the pratice."

Purukku possess [The Ruler of Goblin race] because of this effect, even though the Goblins that just reach adulthood complaining, they stood up immediately.

To improve the surviving rate at the battle that will commence soon, while looking at the Goblins Jen put her heart into training them.

When they first meet, the hatred and discomfort towards the Goblins disappear, she doesn't care about it at all. And, Purukku has completely forgiven the past of adventure that has killed the goblin from the same tribe as them. Now he didn't have any doubt toward himself that relies on this female warrior.

## **Chapter 12**

While looking at retreating adventure that invaded the labyrinth, Alrac murmur.

"Not bad"

The adventure withdraw with the sacrifice of their teammate that was being killed, there was 3 kind of monster inside this labyrinth.

The Large Flies have the power to corrode iron.

The Paralysis Arachnoid have a powerful neurotoxin

and the Dreadful caterpillar can jump around in circle and bite the human head.

In normal situation the demon was hostile against each other, when they meet they will fight against each other. But when the intruder appears in labyrinth, they will cooperate with each other and fight against them. There are hardly any strong monster inside the labyrinth that is why blinded by their greed, they keep advancing into the depth of the labyrinth, there is no end of the number of adventure that advance forward and die.

Today, there is also several teams of adventure that come to this labyrinth, the number of life that was lost wasn't little.

Some of the adventure was able to escape with the treasure in their hand, as compensation for the treasure that was taken away, many life was lost and their soul was devoured by the Labyrinth. Even though the treasure was stolen, it was small compensate for those adventure that survive.

While watching the picture that was projected by crystal ball, Halva laugh joyfully.

The figure of that pure innocent girl watching the corpse of adventurer that was bitten and devoured by the bug that was being projected by the crystal ball.

Looking at this scene, Derito had slight frown on his face.

Right now, there is three people at [King Space]

"Un, it feels good, Onii-sama!"

"It seems like the monster that I place early on has give a stable result. If this condition continue, we will have enough magic power to strengthen the labyrinth in a few weeks."

What a cheerful siblings, Derito that was standing near them warn them.

"Adventurers was a formidable existence. Please don't be careless."

He narrowed his light brown eyes that has the same color with his hair.

The fear toward this sibling has considerably faded. It was because human able to adapt in any kind of environment.

He just get accustomed with the master of the labyrinth.

They are young and pure.

But, they are hopelessly warped

Therefore, even though they appear easy to be controlled and guided, but in fact it was hard.

When they was going to annihilate the adventure that was being lured by the rumour, Derito stop them by saying 'If you do that, than the rumour I sowed will become meaningless.', and they stopped. Alrac was a reasonable person, convinced by the reason he said 'that is right', however Halva said 'If they pull a prank on labyrinth wall, I will kill them' she was someone that act according to her own feeling.

Eventually, the adventurers that was pulling prank on the labyrinth wall was torn and killed, after that Halva was able to calm down. During their discussion

at that time, Derito was bathed by their killing intent that was seeped out from their body (Mainly from Halva).

Therefore, now he have some resistance when he was with them.

Perhaps their sense of what is right and what is wrong is different, it is like they are a walking disaster, is what Derito though.

But, at the same time that is what make him attracted to them.

Like how a person afraid of blazing flame, but was delighted because of it's brightness and warm, Derito begin to be charmed by this two.

(Is this because of the corruption.....)

Thinking so, Derito grasps on the saint seal that was hung on his chest.

But, the favorable impression toward the master of labyrinth doesn't change at all.

The master of the labyrinth doesn't seems to be aware what the priest think. but, Alrac nods slightly toward Derito warnings.

"That is right. When everything is going as a plan, carelessness we will become careless. After we buried the next wave of adventure, let's increase the monster a little bit."

"Ne, Onii-sama! what about the trap? I want to make a flashy one!!"

"I don't mind. but, don't make too much."

When the master of Underground labyrinth talk about the labyrinth. Derito feel unpleasant so he usually leave them alone, Alrac seems to remember something and ask him.

"Derito, the woman that was staying with you. What happen to the task I

assign to them?"

"Yes, Lorna was setting the trap at the place as you permitted. As for jen, the training for the Goblins was advancing as planned. If the training continue for a month, you will be able to use them as a soldier."

"All right, Continue like what we planned then"

"It is wonderful we didn't need to use magic power to do it. Onii-sama."

Lorna was a thief, she was able to use [Trap Creation] skill, she was able create a trap and travel at the place where the trap was set up. According to the Master of Labyrinth sibling, it was advantage for them to be able to produce something without using magic. Similarity for Jen that has [Battle Training] skill, with this skill she was able to train this newborn goblin.

So far, Derito doesn't seems to have a skill that was able to be used to reinforce the labyrinth. But he was granted the position of Advisor and was able to interject when Alrac talk. There is anxiety whatever he was being useful or not, but he doesn't show it on his face or talk about it, he just plainly work hard on his duty.

But, according to Alrac and Halva, Derito was useful.

Basicly, they respect each other opinion, they rarely clash against each other (Even if they clash usually it was between Alrac and Halva), they was able to talk smoothly without having developing any ill intention until their discussion end. By listening to Derito opinion, he often arrive on the answer that he never think before.

And, because he feel it is useful, Alrac ask the anxiety priest that was keep thinking whatever he is useful or not.

"Is there something that you want?"

"Eh?"

Because it is sudden, he let out a silly cry, Alrac continue to ask without minding it.

"Indeed, it will be difficult to return you back to ground now..... However, I will give you a reward according to your work. If there is anything you want, let me hear it."

Even though the way he spoke was cold, Derito recently found out that it doesn't have any evil intention. Alrac was honest and straightforward person, he feel it was natural to reward those that has devoted himself to him.

Because he thought it was rude to decline, he speak out the doubt that he have though for some time.

"Then, would it be alright for me to ask a question?"

"If I was able to answer, I will answer it."

He smile and his blue eyes narrowed a little bit, Alrac was expecting a question from his partner.

Is it the way to handle a powerful magic? or is it the secret to produce money and valuable?, or perhaps it is the method to stop the body from aging? each of this was a top level secret, but he think he might be able to give him a little bit of hint. But, Derito question betray all his expectation, it was much simpler.

"Why, revenge?"

He step one step forward and ask.

When he become his subordinate, Derito was told by Alrac that all of this was retaliation to surrounding country that destroy Magic Empire.

All of it was for revenge.

When they told him, Alrac have a cold tone, while Halva was cheerful.

Derito, found this was strange.

The person that doesn't take the life seriously was talking about revenge.

It seems like the revenge was only the appearance, he suspect even more terrible plot was being laid back, but there is no sign about it.

Everything they have done was all for revenge

Derito want to know, how it become like this.

"Derito....., is there anyone that was important to you? Parent, Sibling, friend...., or even a lover?"

"Th. there is."

"Those are your answer."

"All of it was taken away, Onii-sama!"

Alrac inform him coldly, while Halva speak about it happily.

"If, if that's your answer! then!"

"Then?

"Is it possible to change your thought!?"

He was angry because of what was important to them was being robbed, that was grief. If their heart was full of resentment, he was able to understood it They should have understood the pain of being trampled and the pain of lose.

Even though this 2 people in front of me know that revenge is stupid, but they will still do a retaliation after retaliation. Knowing this, my mouth can't help but say.

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"The revenge will create another revenge."
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"That is why you should hate it, are you going to do like what your enemy do?"

"That is correct"

"That is why I need to be vicious."

They don't talk about justice.

They doesn't say what he was doing was right either.

Even though it was a mistake, something they hate should be destroyed without mercy.

"As for the pain and sorrow, the time will heal it.... And, even if you success in your revenge, nothing will be left."

Derito say dejectedly.

Even though his word doesn't reach him, he think he must say it no matter what.

"It may be so if I was a Human."

"But, we aren't a Human anymore."

"We have stop being a Human, when we become the avatar of this Labyrinth."

"Would we who have become wicked and evil, destroy all the alliance country, Including the Saint Kingdom first."

"Or...."

"Will we be conquered by them first."

<sup>&</sup>quot;That is right, because there is no justice."

<sup>&</sup>quot;That is why, it is evil."

The sibling talk as if they are in synchronized.

""Until one of us fall, Our revenge will never end.""

With this word, Derito lower his head deeply.

It was impossible to persuade them.

At least, the voice of outsider like him will not reach them.

"..... I understood. Thank you for answering my question."

"Maa, Derito. You aren't necessary to keep us company you know."

"When we amass enough power to some extent we will release you. After that you can do whatever you like. I recommend to escape from the Saint Kingdom and the place where it was ruled by the allied country though. Because this world was huge, you can freely choose a place to escape to."

When Derito lowered his head, Alrac answer him coldly, while Halva continue to make fun of him.

The master of labyrinth doesn't seems to be displeased at all.

While thinking in his heart that the master of labyrinth doesn't concerned when he was speaking ill about them, Derito step down.

"Nnn? Seems like when we are talking some unusual group come in"

From innumerable crystal ball that was floating on the desk One of it projected a group of Human that was different from adventure.

## Chapter 12.5

When the thief, Lorna finish setting trap on the Labyrinth, she happen to meet the goblins.

Because they was armed, they must be the Goblin Soldier.

There is 4 people.

All of them wear leather shield and armor with worn-out short spear. They seems to be walking while dragging something, when they come across Lorna, they stop and greet her.

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"Yo, another person~?"

"Yes"
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While calling the familiar goblin with cold eyes, they respond to Lorna.

I can just ignore them, but because it will be troublesome later on so I call over them.

Then, another Goblin pass a bottle of liquor over.

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"It is the loot. Yaru!"
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After receiving the liquor, just to be cautious, I am going to confirm whatever it is safe to drink or not.

After she use [Poison Detection] [Poison Resistance], Lorna open the lid, spill the content a little bit and lick it.

The result is, it is just an ordinary liquor.

```
"..... Thank you. But, why?"
```

The Goblins seems happy, after that, they point into the thing they dragged. It is the corpse.

Is this the adventure who invade here? Perhaps after they bumped into the insect, they was killed cruelly without any dignity as a person. There is a member that was dissolved with acid, there is person face who was full of fear when they die, and there is also the body that had their head missing. Their dead varies, It was far from peaceful.

And, the Goblins laugh happily when they see this corpse.

```
"These are today food."

"Because the children will be born soon, we need a lot of it"
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"The man was tough, but it is still good."

"Eat!"

While hearing this words, Lorna drinks the Liquor to quench her thirst.

With the effect of [Poison Resistance] she will never get drunk. She doesn't particularly like to drink, but, still the taste of liquor after long absent isn't that bad.

"Are you in the middle of carrying it?"

For the female thief, the Goblins answer.

"Yes, we are in the middle of carrying it."

"They are heavy."

"Really heavy."

```
"I'm tired!"

Saying so, the Goblins sit down.

Lorna said to them.

"Did you need help?"

"Ooo, We need!"

"En, We need it!"

"We really need it!"

"Need!"
```

Raising their hand, the Goblins hands over the ropes that was attached to wooden board that was used to carry the corpse.

The female thief regret it for a moment, maa, can't be helped, she then pull the corpse away.

```
"We did it!"

"We did it! We did it!"

"It was easy victory."

"Easy"

"..... You guys pull it too."
```

When they notice the anger that was mixing in Lorna cold voice, the Goblins pull the ropes in hurry.

It was strange that she doesn't had any unpleasant feeling when she talk to the Goblins, nor does she feel anything when she look at the corpse. Rather, she feel a little bit irritated that the corpse doesn't die because of the trap she set up.

Lorna mutter alone when she see the corpse.

"Unsightly."

Hearing her word, the Goblins agree it quickly.

As for Goblins, the anger and hate for her also disappear.

all of them feel the same strangeness while they drag the body of adventurers while heading toward the Goblins settlement.